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Volume 10

APRIL 1936

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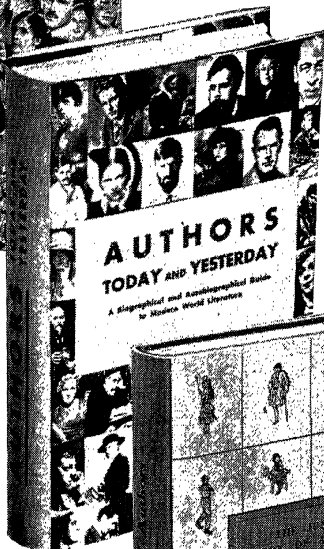
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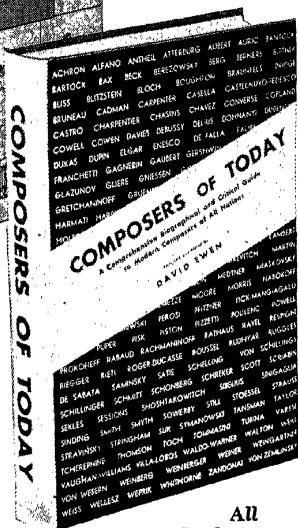
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# The Literary Calendar



1936

## MARCH

**Mar. 2.** Alan J. Villiers, thirty-two-year-old sailor and author, was divorced in Melbourne, Australia, by Daphne Kaye Harris Villiers, on grounds of desertion. Stopping in Melbourne in his full-rigger "Joseph Conrad" on a round-the-world cruise begun in England in September 1934, he prepared to set sail for an unnamed Pacific island in search of gold.

**Mar. 2.** Rasmus Björn Anderson, American author of sixty books on Scandinavian history, died in Madison, Wisconsin, at the age of ninety. In his book *America Not Discovered by Columbus*, he made the first claim that Leif Ericson discovered America. He was United States Minister to Denmark from 1885 to 1889.

**Mar. 3.** Eighteen German authors and journalists, including Arnold Zweig, whose *Education Before Verdun* is the May choice of the Book of the Month Club, were deprived of their citizenship by decree of the Nazi Minister of the Interior. Their property in Germany will be confiscated. Zweig was accused of "belittling the spiritual and ethical values of German culture."

**Mar. 5.** William Frederic Badé, noted Biblical scholar and archaeologist, died of a paralytic stroke in Berkeley, California. He was sixty-five years old. By studying the Old Testament, he discovered the lost city of Mizpah in Palestine in 1926.

**Mar. 5.** Edgar Lee Masters was announced as the winner of the Mark Twain silver medal given annually for preeminence in literature. The award, to be presented within a few months in St. Louis by the International Mark Twain Society, was principally in recognition of Masters' biography of the late Vachel Lindsay, the Illinois poet. Previous recipients of the medal have been Rudyard Kipling, Hilaire Belloc, Booth Tarkington, Willa Cather, Edwin Arlington Robinson, and Stephen Leacock.

**Mar. 9.** Writers reach their peak in literary production at 41, Dr. Harvey C. Lehman, an Ohio University psychologist, reported after research. Poets, he said, produce their best work between 25 and 28 and short story writers before 35. His graph shows writers' productivity ascending more rapidly before 41 than declining after. There is, however, a sharp descent after 44. The study covers the works of more than 500 outstanding English authors, more than 100 American and many French and German writers.



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**Mar. 10.** The Folger Shakespeare Memorial in Washington, D.C., founded by the late Henry Clay Folger, received the bulk of the \$2,000,000 estate of his widow, Mrs. Emily C. Jordan Folger, who died Feb. 21 at her Glen Cove, Long Island, home.

**Mar. 11-12.** At auction in New York, the following rarities brought these prices: *The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer*, one of thirteen copies on vellum designed by William Morris, founder and owner of the Kelmscott Press, which operated at Hammersmith, England, from 1891 to 1898, \$7,100; Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's autograph manuscript of his famous ballad *The Wreck of the Hesperus*, \$3,000; the autograph manuscript of Joseph Conrad's *Under Western Eyes*, \$2,400; a copy of the original edition of William Blake's *The Book of Thel*, \$2,000.

**Mar. 16.** John Scott Haldane, distinguished English physiologist and physicist, author of many scientific monographs, died of pneumonia at Oxford at the age of seventy-six. He was the father of J. B. S. Haldane, noted biochemist and author, and of Naomi Mitchison, novelist.

(Continued on page 502)

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## Current Library Favorites

(According to reports from public libraries in twenty-seven cities \*)

FICTION			NON-FICTION		
AUTHOR	TITLE	VOTES	AUTHOR	TITLE	VOTES
1. Sinclair Lewis,	<i>It Can't Happen Here</i> ...	202	1. Anne M. Lindbergh,	<i>North to the Orient</i>	223
2. Lloyd C. Douglas,	<i>Magnificent Obsession</i> ...	126	2. Alexis Carrel,	<i>Man, the Unknown</i> .....	170
3. Margaret Ayer Barnes,	<i>Edna, His Wife</i> ...	119	3. T. E. Lawrence,	<i>Seven Pillars of Wisdom</i>	164
4. George Santayana,	<i>The Last Puritan</i> ....	117	4. Walter Duranty,	<i>I Write as I Please</i> ....	129
5. J. Lawrence,	<i>If I Have Four Apples</i> ...	114	5. Clarence Day,	<i>Life With Father</i> .....	127
6. Lloyd C. Douglas,	<i>Green Light</i> .....	103	6. Stanley Walker,	<i>Mrs. Astor's Horse</i> ....	82
7. Hervey Allen,	<i>Anthony Adverse</i> .....	65	7. William Seabrook,	<i>Asylum</i> .....	64
8. Robert Briffault,	<i>Europa</i> .....	65	8. A. Woolcott,	<i>The Woolcott Reader</i> ....	47
9. Nordhoff & Hall,	<i>Mutiny on the Bounty</i> ...	59	9. George Seldes,	<i>Sawdust Caesar</i> .....	45
10. Bess S. Aldrich,	<i>Spring Came On Forever</i>	58	10. Yu-t'ang Lin,	<i>My Country and My People</i> <sup>c</sup>	42

COMMENT: Newcomers to the lists this month are *The Last Puritan* (the first book of 1936 to appear here), *If I Have Four Apples*, *Sawdust Caesar*, and *My Country and My People*. . . Three of the "favorites" are more than two years old: *Magnificent Obsession* (1929), *Anthony Adverse* (1933), and *Mutiny on the Bounty* (1932). . . Other "vintage" titles receiving more than 20 votes are *A Woman's Best Years* (1934), *100 Million Guinea Pigs* (1933), and *Pitcairn's Island* (1934). . . First place on each library's report gets 10 votes, second place 9 votes, and so on.

\* Atlanta, Baltimore, Birmingham, Boston, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Des Moines, Detroit, Indianapolis, Kansas City (Mo.), Los Angeles, Louisville, Memphis, Minneapolis, Newark, New Orleans, New York City, Pittsburgh, Portland (Ore.), Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Seattle, Springfield (Mass.), and Toronto.

Mar. 20. R. B. Cunninghame Graham, Scottish traveler and author, died in Buenos Aires, Argentina, of pneumonia at the age of eighty-three. He was the author of more than thirty books, mostly sketches, tales, biographies, and histories dealing with Spain, South America, and the Spanish conquistadores. His best known sketch was "Niggers," a denunciation of British imperialism, contained in his book *The Ipané*.

Mar. 21. Justin Huntly McCarthy, English dramatist, whose play *If I Were King* which was the favorite vehicle of the late E. H. Sothern, died in London at the age of seventy-five. He wrote a variety of plays, histories, novels, poetry, and translations, and was a member of Parliament from 1884 to 1892.

### RANDOM NOTES

Rudyard Kipling left an estate of \$3,000,000, and a total of 3,500,000 volumes of his works have been sold in this country in the last forty years, according to his publishers. . . Francis Yeats Brown, author of *Lives of a Bengal Lancer*, is revisiting India and will write a book called *A Lancer at Large*. . . Robert Nathan has been elected to the National Institute of Arts and Letters. . . Before he sailed for Austria after his first visit to America, Franz Werfel was awarded a gold medal by the editors of the *Jewish Forum* for distinguished service to the Jewish people and to humanity in general. . . Alex-

ander Woolcott is in Europe collecting material for two new books. . . The March best-sellers in England were *The Son of Marietta* by John Fabricius and *Regency* by D. L. Murray. . . Pio Baroja has been elected to the Academia de la Lengua of Spain. . . The Harmsworth Prize for the best work of imaginative prose written by an Irish author during 1934 has been awarded to Joseph O'Neill for *Wind from the North*. . . *Crusader Castles*, an unpublished manuscript of the late T. E. Lawrence, has just been issued in a limited edition in England. It is primarily a treatise on early military architecture in England, France, and Syria. . . "A.E.'s" son, Diarmuid Russell, has joined the staff of G. P. Putnam's Sons as editor. . . Pearl S. Buck and her husband, Richard J. Walsh, who make their home at Dublin, Pennsylvania, recently adopted two babies. . . Robert Cantwell's forthcoming novel, *The Enchanted City*, has the San Francisco general strike as its background. Cantwell reported the strike for the *New Republic*. . . Jesse Stuart has purchased a 112-acre farm and plans to spend the summer behind the plow. . . Visitors from Europe: Frau Gina Kaus, author of last year's popular biography, *Catherine: The Portrait of an Empress*, and Countess Clara Longworth de Chambrun, Shakespearean scholar. . . Coming next month in these pages: Autobiographical sketch of Frederic Prokosch, author of *The Asiatics* (advt.).

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# Walter Duranty

WALTER DURANTY, English journalist . . . whose autobiography *I Write as I Please* is a current library favorite, was born May 25, 1884, in Liverpool, England. He was educated at Harrow, Bedford, and Emmanuel College, Cambridge, receiving classical scholarships at each school and an honors degree at Cambridge. One of his classmates at Emmanuel was Hugh Walpole.

For seven years after college Duranty took what his friend Alexander Woolcott calls a "fruitful post-graduate course in the humanities" by leading a "fly-by-night, New York-to-Marseilles, hand-to-mouth existence, financed by occasional jobs of pumping Latin into some bird-brain son of the rich, occasional stories sold to Mr. Munsey's *Argosy*, occasional lucky shots at the Derby and the Grand Prix."

In December 1913 he joined the European service of the *New York Times*. His job as "second man" in the Paris office was to wait up every morning long enough to see the first edition of the *Matin* and also to go on various out-of-town assignments. During the war he was a correspondent on the Western Front, attached to the French army. After the war he went to the Baltic states for a few months with the newly appointed American High Commissioner, Commander Gade.

When Herbert Hoover's American Relief Association was called upon to minister to the sufferers in the great Russian famine of 1921, Duranty became Moscow correspondent. During the next fourteen years he covered all the important news stories from Russia and won fame for his interpretations to the Western World of the methods and mental processes of the Soviet Union. He was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for reporting in 1932. When Soviet-American relations were resumed in the fall of 1933, he accompanied Litvinov to the United States.

Duranty began what might be termed his "literary" career in 1928 by winning the O. Henry Memorial Award with a short story about Russia called "The Parrot" which appeared in *Red Book*. This story, says Alexander Woolcott, was actually written by Duranty's good friend and fellow journalist Hubert Renfro Knickerbocker.

Duranty's first book, published in 1929, was *The Curious Lottery and Other Tales of Russian Justice*. It contained accounts of ten dramatic trials in Soviet courts, reprinted from the *New York Times*. A selection of Duranty's articles and dispatches to the *Times* during the period 1921 to 1934 was compiled in 1934 by Gustavus Tuckerman, Jr., of the economics faculty of New York University, with the title *Duranty Reports Russia*.

*I Write as I Please*, Duranty's story of his journalistic career, became an immediate best-seller when published in December 1935. He



WALTER DURANTY

says that in writing the book he found himself "enmeshed in and encompassed by limitations" and hence concluded that his title ought to have been "I Write as I Talk"—"by which I mean that I try to express my thoughts simply without much care for euphony or grammar." The book was dedicated to the late William Bolitho, who was Duranty's best friend and the man he admired most.

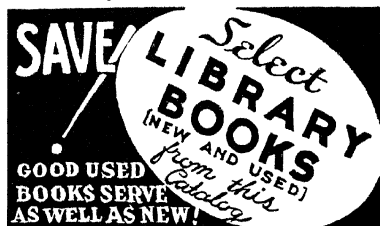
Duranty is usually described as a little man with a limp. He lost his left foot in a railway accident while traveling from Paris to Havre in November 1924. For his disability the French Railways paid him \$10,000 compensation. He is unmarried. His favorite pastime is going places, seeing things, and talking to people. His pre-eminence in the art of conversation is recognized by Alexander Woolcott who says: "It used to be a point of warm agreement between the late William Bolitho and myself that, in our wanderings around the world, we had met up with no other man who could make a purposeless hour at some sidewalk cafe so memorably delightful." He gets rid of his worries by writing little prose poems in the e e cummings manner.

Recently asked for further information about himself, Duranty replied: "No remarks other than those recorded in *I Write as I Please* save the following: The next time I try to write about the life and adventures of a reporter in Europe (myself or anyone else) I shall do it in fictional form. *Magna est veritas, sed vulnerabit.*"

On leave from his job, he spent February and March 1936 in Florida completing a novel entitled *One Life, One Kapek*.

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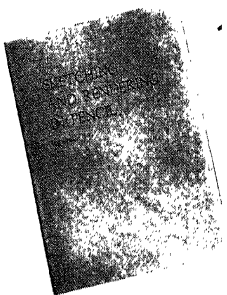
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# WILSON BULLETIN

## FOR LIBRARIANS

*April 1936*

### History Reading Groups in the Library

*Tyler Kepner\**

ONE does not appear before a group of school librarians to suggest the need of a reading program for high school pupils; much less does one hint at the need for supplementing the textbook in history with reading materials which by their very nature are designed to add flesh and blood to the skeleton, an apt characterization for most of the textbooks in history. There is a phase of the reading problem in history, however, that may well be brought to the attention of school librarians and of teachers of history as well. I refer to what has lately been termed recreational reading—reading for the fun of reading. Schools have been too intent upon teaching subjects to give much thought to some of the important factors in life that govern one's activities long after much that the school has taught is but a vague memory. To approach this business of living from another angle as it is related to the problem of reading, one may ask a simple question: Why do adults read, if they read at all? To write a book report or make a floor talk? To gather together in a notebook a lot of notes on the period of Federalism or on the impeachment of Johnson? To read verbatim the Federal Reserve Act of 1913 or the Reconstruction Acts of 1867? In most cases the answer must be *No*. Why, then, do adults read? Will it not be agreed that in most cases the "man in the street" reads, if he read at

all, for purely recreational purposes? If this is true, why should not the school be more concerned with developing in its pupils a love for reading for the fun that can be found in reading? But if such is to be the school's goal with reference to this problem of reading in the life that lies beyond the school, much re-vamping of present practices will be in order.

#### *The Beginning of an Experiment*

It was to this general problem of recreational reading as it relates to American history that the teachers of that subject in the Brookline High School addressed themselves in the fall of 1934. Permission was sought and obtained to have the non-college preparatory American history in grade XII meet five fifty-minute periods a week, with the understanding that one period a week was to be devoted to a library period. There were several reasons for carrying on the experiment with the non-college people but the main reason was that this was the group which would not have the advantages of reading that one associates with a college education if not always with the practices of a college graduate. In brief, this was the group that by and large constitutes the backbone of a democracy, political and economic—the group that potentially has the greatest number of votes and the group

\* Director of Social Studies, Public Schools, Brookline, Mass. Presented to the New England School Libraries Association in the Brookline High School Library, October 26, 1935, and prepared for publication at the request of some of the librarians present.

that performs the greater part of the labor that is performed in certain fields of our complex, industrialized nation. And in so far as one can now see into the future, this is the group that will have an increasing amount of leisure time on its hands in the years ahead.

This non-college group consisted of seven divisions, averaging 27 pupils to a division and involving four teachers. In consultation with the school librarian a schedule was made which provided a given period each week for each division in the reading room of the library. This room, set off from the main school library by glass partitions, was large enough to accommodate 35 pupils. In a newly renovated library adequate provision was made in this reading room for reserve shelves and similar equipment, but during the first year of the plan old and inadequate furniture only was provided—a matter of some consequence as will be pointed out later.

Since it is desirable that a reading period such as is here contemplated should provide considerable freedom for the pupil both in selection of materials and in the general conduct of the period, carefully laid plans are very necessary. Recreational reading in a library period, if it is to attain maximum results, must have a setting of freedom, but it should be controlled and guided freedom where a group is concerned. To achieve these ends, the cooperation of the school librarian and the teachers concerned is, of course, necessary. As I conceive this cooperation in the light of our experience, the teacher is the subject specialist who knows exactly what is wanted and makes those wants known to the librarian. The librarian supplies those wants to the best of her ability and resources, and unlike too many druggists does not suggest poor substitutes. This, as will be pointed out below, is one of the greatest services a teacher can desire from a librarian. Beyond this the librarian has a wide field for service to reading groups. Physically she sets the stage, and to the extent that the stage is set for comfort the atmosphere necessary for recreational reading is created. This intangible thing called atmosphere is, I believe, the primary job of the librarian, and in many schools the libra-

rian must become an ardent missionary to convert the powers that be into realizing that atmosphere is to the library what godliness is to the church.

An important part of carefully made plans for the library period on the part of the teacher is the preparation of a great variety of exercises for the pupil—exercises so varied in nature that every pupil will find something that will appeal to his tastes and abilities. In this particular plan for grade XII more than 750 exercises of some 40 varieties are provided, and each exercise is in terms definite enough that the pupil does not find it necessary to ask a host of questions as to meaning. While not all of the exercises are strictly reading exercises, the great majority require in one way or another the use of library facilities. Of the exercises that may be classified as reading or reference in nature, we find those that are designed to encourage (1) reading for enjoyment, (2) the acquisition of information, (3) the use of books for special reports, (4) the occasional use of source materials, and (5) the utilization of materials as a background for creative work of a wide variety. For those whose reading interests are exceedingly limited but for whom a library period should offer something constructive, there are exercises which are designed to emphasize the values of (1) pictorial materials, and (2) the use and construction of graphs, tables, charts, diagrams, etc. Altho our plan is projected primarily on the level of recreational reading—that is, why adults read historical materials, if they do—we must take into account the fact that some pupils, on the one hand, will desire to do more serious reading for the purpose of supplementing their class work and that some pupils, on the other hand, will not desire to go much beyond the non-reading type of library work, particularly at the beginning of the year. But whatever the type of pupil, we insist first and last that our purpose is not to make historians out of our pupils—a shortcoming, we believe, of some reading programs of the past.

Comprehended in the materials which we choose to call recreational reading is that vast field of imaginative literature



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of a pseudo-historical nature such as historical novels, historical dramas, poetry of historical leanings, modern political satires, etc. Now we are aware that few pupils will cultivate a love of serious history reading thru the reading of historical novels, and we are conscious of the fact that the pupil who in school does not progress much beyond the thumbing of pictorial materials is not likely to become much of a reader in the years after school. Our contention is, however, that the pupil who learns to read historical novels in school with a measure of enjoyment may not only read such imaginative literature after he leaves school but he may acquire a taste for good historical fiction as against poor. And as for the picture-minded person, knowledge of what is in Stallings' *The First World War*, for example, may do something to counteract the blood-thirsty headlines and glorified portrayal of war too common to the daily tabloid, if nothing more is accomplished. Of one thing we are rather certain: Many of the reading programs

inherited from the nineteenth century, when high schools were not attempting to educate the masses as today, created little more than a first-class hatred of historical reading and a firm resolve never to pick up a book that remotely resembled history, or any other book for that matter.

The question naturally arises as to what kind of reading materials in history is comprehended in the program here proposed. The plan presupposes that the school librarian as well as the teacher of history has cleaned house figuratively and literally. The inheritances of the past century must be pretty largely discarded. The history stock in trade—the American Nation Series and American Statesmen Series, for example—must not appear on the reserve shelves of the reading room for the groups under consideration. Designed distinctly for collegiate consumption originally, these and many other books in American history are outmoded; in any event they do not appeal to the average high school senior, nor should they as our schools are now constituted.<sup>1</sup> In this connection

<sup>1</sup>For a more modern type of American history reading materials for high school pupils of today, see Appendix VI in Faulkner and Kepner, *America: Its History and People* (Harpers, 1934). Imaginative literature is listed at the chapter-ends in this volume. Also at the chapter-ends will be found the exercises referred to above.

it occurs to me that school librarians must find some diplomatic way of dealing with well-intentioned citizens who periodically donate more or less antique books to the library. The books, of course, must be accepted, but there is no requirement that they be used. I suggest a remote section of the library out of reach of all pupils where such books can be placed with a respect due to the donors. After a few years some way should be found of removing these books from this morgue; perhaps antiquarian societies would be interested in some of them, but whatever disposition is finally made of these books, high school pupils must be protected from them. And perhaps it should be stated with equal emphasis that high school pupils in history must be protected from teachers who insist upon using reading materials that were written for college students and for graduate students.

In one other major respect does our plan depart from orthodox practice. If recreational reading is done for the fun of it, teachers must refrain from imposing an old restriction that has come to have the force of tradition. Reference is made to formal methods of checking upon library reading. No space will be taken to point out the shortcomings from an educational point of view of formal book reports. Every experienced teacher knows what they are even tho he continues to insist upon them. Our plan requires no formal written or oral reports on the reading exercises we have designed. Nor can we consistently set up the requirement of formal reports, if we really believe in our primary purpose of encouraging recreational reading. How many adults would voluntarily read if the day of reckoning constantly faced them? We must have faith to believe that reading for the fun of reading is in itself a worthy goal. And if we meet with any success, there will be voluntary and spontaneous by-products reflected in class procedure from such reading. Of course, this means the conversion of many teachers and some pupils to the ideal, for even some pupils caught in the web of formalistic practices will for a time at least insist upon traditional ways.

### *Reactions of Pupils*

On the basis of a year's experience with this plan of history reading periods, what appear to be the results? After six weeks of the use of the plan one of the instructors asked for an unsigned "honest opinion of the library period" from a division of 32 pupils in the commercial curriculum. The replies were classified in four groups: 4 pupils were definitely enthusiastic altho two were not so at first; 15 were mildly receptive altho four of this group thought that there were not enough "interesting books"; 10 were mildly critical (of this number six preferred a study period and two a regular class period); 3 were definitely hostile. The interpretation of these results and their significance, based as they are upon but six library periods, will be left to the reader. After a six-months trial of the plan another instructor called for signed statements of his pupils' reaction to the library period. Two are given below verbatim. The first was written by a pupil of good native ability and very high achievement in history.

As far as I am concerned, the library lesson periods are a failure. Of course, I enjoy the relaxation from a regular class period, but nevertheless I feel I am wasting my time.

It takes so long to find a book that is as interesting as it is historical. This hunting and confusion usually last for half the period; in the remaining time one can only just about get started. It is these "loose" ends that are annoying—to start but not to finish—and, perhaps, the following week be unable to find the same book.

The management of the library period is admirable and above objection. The informal, unclassroom-like air helps the student to enjoy the period; a strict discipline would be intolerable.

I have often thought that if the students would select their books during the week, either at the public library, school library, or from their own collection, and bring their books to class, the feeling of the uselessness of the period might be overcome. Each student would then have a book in which he was sure to be interested; all books would, of course, be approved by the instructor.

I am most certainly not advocating a class period instead of the library lesson. I think a day away from class relieves the monotony of the routine, but, as the library period is now, it is similar to a good idea drifting helplessly, trying to probe to the root of the matter.

Perhaps in fairness to the instructor it should be stated that the pupil's contention that half of the period was spent in locating a book is an exaggeration of conditions, as I can testify from my own observation. On the other hand, a real problem was undoubtedly touched upon by the pupil—and one more or less peculiar to many of our divisions at the time—which has now been solved. A recent, timed observation in this instructor's library period recorded all but one pupil in a group of 30 comfortably seated and apparently earnestly reading six minutes after the period began.

The second reaction is that of a pupil of high native ability but only average achievement in history.

In my opinion, the library period that we have once a week in place of our usual history session is extremely beneficial to the class as a whole. It provides an opportunity to broaden your point of view on various subjects, and I think that allowing the pupils to pick out their own reading material and to choose their own subjects for fifty minutes is not only a help in history but an aid to literary education.

The air of informality and the complete choice of material that our school library provides is a stimulation, and if during the week some point has come up that is not quite clear in the mind of the student, this period offers ample time and the best of material in which to straighten this problem out once and for all.

I have found that the series of books entitled "Pageant of America" prove to be among the most interesting books not only to look at but also for the reading matter contained in them.

As for the continuance of this period for classes of future years, I think it is an excellent idea, especially if they can get as much enjoyment and real benefit as I have during this past year.

From these opinions one can conclude little more than that here are two strong and on the whole conflicting views. More significant are the tabulated results to an unsigned, mimeographed questionnaire answered by all pupils at the close of the year's experiment.

The five questions appearing on the questionnaire and the results are:

1. Has your use of the library period interested you in reading more widely outside of school? (40 per cent answered *Yes* and 60 per cent *No*.)

2. Apart from the opportunity to read, has the library period given you an opportunity, thru some of the exercises, to use and develop certain abilities—such as the artistic ability, ability to use references, ability to interpret materials? (82 per cent answered *Yes* and 18 per cent *No*.)

- a. Do you believe this phase a desirable part of the period? (91 per cent *Yes*; 9 per cent *No*.)

3. Have you found that the library period has given you a better understanding of the regular history assignment? (72 per cent *Yes*; 28 per cent *No*.)

4. Star your preference:

- a. Definite assignment of selected types of work for this period (20 per cent)
- b. Opportunity to choose books you prefer or exercises you prefer (80 per cent)

5. What criticism of the library period would you make, and what constructive suggestions can you offer that would make the library period more valuable to future classes? (To this question there were many answers. Below are listed the nine more important in order of frequency: (a) duplicate copies of books desired; (b) variations of monotony—these answers came from commercial pupils; (c) more historical novels desired; (d) more adequate furniture, equipment, etc. needed; (e) difficulty in getting same book from week to week suggested; (f) class period of discussion preferred; (g) weekly reports on library work desired; (h) procedure for signing up in advance for books suggested; (i) library period should concentrate on a project concerning a period of time).

Extended comment might be made upon each set of results, but limitations of space permit comment on three only, which is not to imply that the others are not significant. In the first place, it seems to me that if 40 per cent of our pupils after one year under the plan have voluntarily read more widely outside of school, the plan is accomplishing its primary purpose to a rather considerable degree. The results on the third question are very significant. Altho we placed emphasis upon reading for the fun of reading and made no formal effort to check upon the results in the educative process as they affect history learning, more than 70 per cent felt that

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# Books on Modern Germany

By Felix E. Hirsch, Ph.D.\*

EVERY mortal day the big American newspapers print long dispatches about the Third Reich. However interesting and even moving the cables sent by their excellent Berlin correspondents may be, they can report only the last events and cannot show the great political, economic, and spiritual connections. The average reader is obliged to take refuge in reliable books, if he wishes to understand German affairs from the bottom. But where are the reliable books? Is he to study the propaganda literature of the N.S.D.A.P. or that of the anti-Hitlerites abroad? Is it a sufficient basis for him to know some pamphlets written since 1933 or where can he find the most valuable sources of true information?

The following list intends to answer all the questions of reasonable readers. The compiler has selected some dozens of outstanding books so as to show every aspect of the German problems. He has not confined himself to party politics and foreign affairs, but included a great number of works dealing with constitutional, economic and social questions because of their preeminence in post-war Germany, and has enlarged this list by adding the most important books written about cultural movements and religious problems now so fervently discussed in the Third Reich. On the other hand, all books intended for the use only of scholars were excluded. Fiction and drama, too, were removed, because otherwise the list would have been too long; but there cannot be any doubt about the political influence of the literary works of poets like Ernst Glaeser, Hans Grimm, Hanns Johst, Heinrich Mann, Walter von Molo, E. M. Remarque, and Fritz von Unruh. The compiler did not start with the book production of 1933—there is, out of a hundred volumes, perhaps one of importance, whereas the rest were not worth printing—but included the really significant works published since the end of the great war. For nobody can understand the recent German events who has not an exact knowledge of the consequences of the peace treaty, of the inflation, and of the last economic crisis which undermined the foundations of the republic. Wherever possible, biographical and autobiographical works were chosen, because they are always the most attractive introduction to the main problems and make us understand the social and psychological back-

ground of historical events. Two-fifths of the books are in English, so that the reader who is unable to understand foreign languages may obtain ample information. But it must be added that some of the most interesting and characteristic books have not yet found translators: e.g. Walther Rathenau's letters, a great human document; Alfred Rosenberg's "Mythus des 20. Jahrhunderts," the bible of the German "nordic" movement; Lujo Brentano's memoirs, and Thomas Mann's finest speeches are to be read only in German.

Last but not least, the compiler wishes to stress the fact that his list is an impartial one. The reader will find that for every great problem there is a choice of important books written from every point of view. The man interested in the labor question may decide for himself, whether he will use the standard work of the liberal Herkner, the biography of the socialist Legien, the speeches of the national socialist Ley or the autobiography of the liberal Brentano. The investigator of the Jewish problem will discover entries of anti-semitic works (Fritsch, Kittel), Jewish ones (Einstein, Philo-Lexikon, Arnold Zweig), and of an independent one (Faulhaber). Regarding the church struggle, the reader has the choice between truly Christian books (Karl Barth, Künneth, Niemöller) and pagan-nordic ones (Hauer, Rosenberg), and, moreover, he sees the recommendation of an objective American report (Means). The educational problem is here discussed from the socialistic point of view (Grimme), the liberal one (Boelitz), and the national socialistic one (Kriek). Cross-references facilitate the finding of related works. The annotations of the compiler are intended only to show the opinion of the author in question, the literary and political importance of his work and its scope. Critical remarks are always directed against a man's lack of qualities as a writer, not against his political, social or cultural tendencies. A star put before an author's name indicates that his work is of great importance; a library with limited funds should purchase the 25 starred books first.

**Allen, Henry T.** Rhineland occupation. Indianapolis 1927 Bobbs-Merrill

The commander of the American army of occupation gives an excellent and really

\* Former political editor of the *Berliner Tageblatt*, now special student at Columbia School of Library Service.

objective report about the part he and his army played in Rhineland during the first post-war period. In addition, one should read *My Rhineland Journal*, by the same author, a diary containing interesting personal impressions.

\* **Anschütz, Gerhard.** Die verfassung des deutschen Reiches vom 11. August 1919. 14th ed. Berlin 1933 Georg Stilke

The standard work about the constitution of the German republic. An unrivalled commentary written by the best expert in so elegant and clear a style that even a layman can understand difficult legal problems.

**Anschütz, Gerhard and Thoma, Richard.** Handbuch des deutschen Staatsrechts. 2 vols. Tübingen 1931-32 I. C. B. Mohr

The finest and most reliable handbook of German public law during the republican epoch. The best specialists contributed to it. See also Preuss, Schmitt, Staatslexikon

**Armstrong, Hamilton Fish.** Hitler's reich; the first phase. New York 1933 Macmillan

The editor of *Foreign Affairs* introduces the national socialistic revolution to the American reader and sketches the broad outlines of the events in the Spring of 1933. See also Hoover, Stead

\* **Barth, Karl.** Theological existence today! A plea for theological freedom. London 1933 Hodder

Karl Barth, the spiritual head of German Protestantism in its fight against the state and now professor of theology at Basle university, has written here another of the great pamphlets abundant in German ecclesiastical history since Luther. See also Hauer, Küneth, Means, Niemöller, Rosenberg

**Bäumer, Gertrud.** Lebensweg durch eine zeitenwende. Tübingen 1933 R. Wunderlich

The former leader of the women's movement in Germany and one of the most influential democratic members of the Reichstag, tells here the story of her life and makes the reader understand the phases of the women's emancipation. One of the most valuable books about modern Germany.

**Becker, Carl Heinrich.** Gedanken zur Hochschulreform. 2d ed. Leipzig 1920 Quelle und Meyer

The late C. H. Becker, the great scholar and minister of education, discusses the vital post-war problems of the German universities in a very lucid manner. See also Curtius, Harnack, Schmidt-Ott

**Benn, Gottfried.** Der neue staat und die intellektuellen. Stuttgart 1933 Deutsche Verlagsanstalt

The poet Gottfried Benn who formerly belonged to the radicals confessed his

faith in the N.S. government and its ideals in 1933. He deals here with freedom of thought, with the literary emigration and the breeding of a new race.

\* **Bergmann, Carl.** The history of reparations. With a foreword by Sir Josiah Stamp. London 1927 Ernest Benn

The late secretary of state who was in continuous close association with the problems of reparations wrote this excellent report, perhaps the best and most comprehensive one made on this topic by a German. See also Bonn, Dawes, Schacht

**Bergsträsser, Ludwig.** Geschichte der politischen parteien in Deutschland. 6th ed. Mannheim 1932 Bensheimer (Deutsches Druck- und Verlagshaus)

The best existing history of the German political parties. It is written from a democratic point of view, but with the intent of being impartial. The book contains a very useful bibliography.

**Bernhard, Georg.** Die deutsche tragödie. Der selbstmord einer Republik. Prague 1933 Orbis-Verlag

The former editor-in-chief of the liberal *Vossische Zeitung* and democratic member of the Reichstag, gives an account of the German post-war developments from the point of view of the anti-Hitlerite emigration. See also Clarck, Heiden, Mowrer, Stegemann, Villard

**Bernhard, Ludwig.** Der Hugenberg-Konzern. Berlin 1928 Julius Springer

An excellent study about the structure of the great nationalistic publishing concern written by an intimate friend of the former minister Hugenberg. The important part this politician played in Germany's post-war history is not to be understood without a thorow knowledge of his propagandist methods. In addition one may read the Hugenberg biography written by one of his journalists, Otto Kriegk (Leipzig 1932 R. Kittler) See also Helfferich

**Boelitz, Otto.** Der aufbau des preussischen bildungswesens nach der staatsumwälzung. 2d ed. Leipzig 1925 Quelle und Meyer

The former liberal Prussian minister of education surveys carefully the achievements of his ministry after the war. See also Grimme, Kriek

**Bonn, Moritz Julius.** Der neue plan als grundlage der deutschen wirtschaftspolitik. Munich 1930 Duncker und Humblot

The best German study of the origin and economic consequences of the Young Plan. An appendix contains some interesting memoranda of the author who was one of the most influential financial experts of the republican governments.



**Brentano, Lujo.** Mein leben in kampf um die soziale entwicklung Deutschlands. Jena 1931 Diederichs

The greatest economist Germany possessed during the Empire and the Republic tells the story of his life in a highly interesting manner. The last chapters of his memoirs were devoted to the Munich revolution of the radical socialist Kurt Eisner and to the great labor-problems of the post-war period. See also Herkner, Leipart, Ley, Toller

**Brockdorff-Rantzau, Graf Ulrich.** Dokumente und gedanken um Versailles. 3d ed. With an introduction by Hans Delbrück. Berlin 1925 Verlag für Kulturpolitik

The late Graf von Brockdorff-Rantzau, the courageous head of the German delegation at the peace conference of Versailles, collected his papers and speeches about his historic mission. A very important book. See also Keynes, Nowak, Schiff

\* **Clark, R. T.** The fall of the German republic. London 1935 Allen and Unwin

R. T. Clark who wrote, with Hugh Quigley, a valuable book, *Republican Germany* (London 1928 Methuen), has just finished a study about the last phases of the German democracy 1927-33. This is by far the best work about that period, altho it neglects the economic side of the German problems. Clark writes from a liberal point of view, but tries to be impartial. His literary portraits of men like Stresemann, Groener, Brüning, etc. are excellent. A first-class introduction for American readers to the main problems.

**Curtius, Ernst Robert.** Deutscher geist in gefahr! 6th ed. Stuttgart 1933 Deutsche Verlagsanstalt

The famous scholar collects here some important essays about academic life and the great cultural tendencies of modern Germany. Altho he is sometimes apparently wrong, his courage and the independence of his judgment make his book worth reading.

\* **D'Abernon, Edgar Vincent, Viscount.** An ambassador of peace. 3 vols. London 1929-30 Hodder and Stoughton

Lord D'Abernon was the first English ambassador in Berlin after the war; he played an enormous part behind the scenes of world politics. His diaries 1920-26 are the most reliable and fascinating foreign source about German history from Ebert to Stresemann. D'Abernon is not only an ingenious diplomat, but also a spirited writer; his essays about the leading figures of that epoch are literary masterpieces.

**Darré, Richard Walter.** Das bauerntum als lebensquell der nordischen rasse. 3d ed. Munich 1933 I. F. Lehmann

R. W. Darré, now minister for agriculture and head of the German peasant's movement, wrote this book some years ago. Altho it was devoted more to historical problems than to present ones, it is the key for the understanding of the national socialistic farmer politics. See also Feder, Günther, Hitler, Rosenberg

**Dawes, Rufus C.** The Dawes plan in the making. With foreword by Frank O. Lowden. Indianapolis 1925 Bobbs-Merrill

Rufus C. Dawes, a brother of the former Vice-President, tells the story of the origin of the Dawes plan. Having been an adviser to the American members of the international experts committee in 1924, he gives a highly interesting inside description of its workings. In an appendix the complete English text of the so-called Dawes report is to be found.

**Degener, Hermann A. L.** Wer ist's? 10th ed. Berlin 1935 Hermann Degener

The best German biographic reference-book, now fully up to date. It contains about 18,000 sketches of the lives of contemporaries.

**Delbrück, Hans.** Vor und nach dem weltkrieg. Berlin 1926 Otto Stollberg

The late Hans Delbrück, the famous Berlin historian, collected here some of his finest essays on political questions. He represented in his writing the feeling of the best type of German scholars. See also Meinecke, Oncken, Troeltsch, M. Weber

\* **Diesel, Eugen.** Germany and the Germans. New York 1931 Macmillan

The son of the ingenious inventor wrote this extremely interesting study about the psychological structure of Germany. His opinions on the German society, the German "races," etc. are often wrong, but always instructive and worth considering. See also Hellpach, Keyserling, Kuhlmann, Sieburg

**Dietrich, Otto.** Mit Hitler in die macht. 18th ed. Munich 1933 Franz Eher

Otto Dietrich, one of Hitler's closest collaborators and, moreover, the chief of the press section of the N.S.D.A.P. gives here an account of his impressions and experiences during his leader's fight for power. See also Goebbels, Göring

**Dovifat, Emil.** Die zeitungsn. Gotha 1925 Flamberg-Verlag

The excellent professor of journalism at Berlin university makes here a really informative survey of the great German newspapers, their history and their conditions in the republican era.

- \* **Ebert, Friedrich.** Schriften, aufzeichnungen, reden. 2 vols. Dresden 1926 Carl Reissner

The papers and speeches of the first German President, the socialist Friedrich Ebert, edited by his son. His friend Paul Kampffmeyer wrote a reliable biographical introduction to this work. In addition, one may read a second collection of Ebert's papers and recollections of his intimates: Kämpfe und Ziele, published in 1927. See also Kuttner, Müller, Noske, Scheidemann

- \* **Einstein, Albert.** The world as I see it. New York 1934 Covici Friede

This book of the Nobel prize-winner Einstein (now living in Princeton, N.J.) contains some of his addresses, speeches, and letters on Jewish questions and on the peace problem. Especially interesting is Einstein's correspondence with the Prussian Academy of Sciences in the Spring of 1933. See also Wassermann, A. Zweig

- \* **Faulhaber, Michael von.** Judaism, Christianity and Germany. With an introduction by George N. Shuster. New York 1934 Macmillan

Cardinal Archbishop Michael von Faulhaber, the spiritual leader of the German Catholics, attacks the nordic-paganism in these speeches which caused a great sensation two years ago. Being a distinguished expert in all questions of the Old Testament, he defends the Bible against anti-Semitic critics. See also Kittel, Küneth, Philo-Lexikon, Rosenberg

- Feder, Gottfried.** The programme of the N.S.D.A.P. and its general conceptions. Munich 1932 Franz Eher

The former secretary of state and one of Hitler's closest collaborators up to 1933, gives a short authoritative comment of the 25 points of the Nazi program and discusses its basic ideas.

- Fritsch, Theodor.** Handbuch der Judenfrage. 33d ed. Leipzig 1933 Hammer-Verlag

This book written by one of the most ardently anti-Semitic politicians represents the official tendencies of the N.S. movement regarding the Jewish question.

- \* **Goebbels, Joseph.** My part in Germany's fight. London 1935 Hurst and Blackett

Dr. Joseph Goebbels, the German minister for propaganda and one of the most powerful personalities of the N.S.D.A.P., reproduces here his political diaries written from the beginning of 1932 up to the national festival of May 1, 1933.

- Gooch, George Peabody.** Germany. With an introduction by H.A.L. Fisher, M.P. New York 1925 Scribner

The eminent English historian wrote this excellent study about modern Ger-

many when Stresemann was at the summit of his career. Some chapters are now old-fashioned, but other parts of the work are still very valuable.

- \* **Göring, Hermann.** Germany reborn. London 1934 Elkin Matthews and Marrot

General Hermann Göring, national socialist Prime Minister of Prussia and minister for air defence, gives the broad outlines of the recent German history, as he sees it, and sketches out his own task. In addition one may read the Göring biography by Martin Sommerfeldt (Berlin 1933 Mittler)

- Grimme, Adolf and others.** Wesen und wege der schulreform. Berlin 1930 Weidmann

Adolf Grimme, the former socialistic minister of education, and some other well-known specialists give here an interesting report of modern pedagogic problems and methods.

- Günther, Hans F. K.** The racial elements in European history. New York 1928 Dutton

Hans F. K. Günther is the first expert of the N.S. government for racial questions. This book contains the general theories of the author about the Aryan problem, the nordic race, etc. In addition one may read Günther's *Rassenkunde des deutschen volkes*. (17th ed. Munich 1933 I. F. Lehmann)

- Harms, Bernhard and others.** Strukturwandlungen der deutschen volkswirtschaft. 2d ed. 2 vols. Berlin 1929 Reimar Hobbing

Thirty-six prominent German economists report here in an elucidating manner about the social, economic, and financial problems of post-war Germany. Among the authors are Friedrich Aereboe, Carl Bergmann, Goetz Briefs, Julius Hirsch, Emil Lederer, Johannes Popitz and Joseph Schumpeter. The value of the work is increased by an excellent bibliography. See also Lewinsohn, Raphael, Schacht

- Harnack, Adolf von.** Aus der werkstatt des vollendeten. ed. by Axel von Harnack. Giessen 1930 Töpelmann

The late Adolf von Harnack, the greatest scholar Germany possessed in the twentieth century, was not only a world-renowned theologian, but also the president of the famous scientific research-foundation "Kaiser Wilhelm-Gesellschaft" and, last but not least, the unrivaled director-general of the library of the Prussian state. That, perhaps, is the reason why his brilliant essays and speeches are of special interest for librarians.

- Hauer, Jakob Wilhelm.** Deutsche Gottschau. 3d ed. Stuttgart 1935 Gutbrod

The leader of the German Faith Movement reports here in broad outlines about

the program of the neopagan circles. Their influence, especially among the academic youth, is not to be underestimated.

\* **Heiden, Konrad.** A history of National Socialism. New York 1935 Knopf

Konrad Heiden, an avowed enemy of Hitler's government, wrote this history of the N.S.D.A.P. from its beginning up to the Summer of 1933. The book contains many interesting details, but is not an impartial source of history.

**Helfferich, Karl.** Reichstagsreden 1920-24. 2 vols. Berlin 1922-25 Brunnen-Verlag

The late Vice-Chancellor, one of Germany's responsible statesmen in the great war, became later on the leader of the Nationalists; he was the most embittered enemy of Erzberger and Rathenau. His speeches made in parliament are of some political significance. Graf Westarp, his conservative friend, wrote a biographical introduction to the second volume.

**Hellpach, Willy.** Politische prognose für Deutschland. Berlin 1928 S. Fischer

Professor Willy Hellpach, the former president of the state Baden and democratic candidate for the Reichs-presidency in 1925, wrote this highly interesting book dealing with all great political and cultural problems of the German republic in an ingenious and often critical manner.

**Herkner, Heinrich.** Die arbeiterfrage. 8th ed. 2 vols. Berlin 1922 de Gruyter

The German standard work about the whole labor question, written in an extraordinarily clear and lucid style. It is a pity that Professor Herkner's book is now old-fashioned in some respects. Ludwig Heyde's *Abriss der Sozialpolitik*. 8th ed. Leipzig 1935 Quelle und Meyer can fill the gap only superficially.

**Heuss, Theodor.** Hitler's weg. 8th ed. Stuttgart 1932 Union Deutsche Verlagsgesellschaft

Theodor Heuss, the former democratic parliamentarian, wrote this historic-political study of National Socialism and its leader from a liberal point of view. Altho he is a moderate and tactful critic, his book was burnt on the occasion of the autodafé in the Spring of 1933.

**Hindenburg, Paul von.** Out of my life. London 1920 Cassell

Altho this book deals only with the pre-war and war experiences of the late President von Hindenburg, it is a good key to the psychological understanding of his personality. See also E. Ludwig, *Schultze-Pfälzer*

\* **Hitler, Adolf.** My battle. (Title of the English edition: My struggle) Boston and New York 1933 Houghton Mifflin

This translation of Hitler's autobiographical work is only an abridged reproduction

of the original. That is the reason why every reader seriously interested in world-politics should use the German edition of *Mein Kampf* (Eher-Verlag, Munich). This book is the most reliable source for the official interpretation of the Nazi program and has now a circulation of two million copies in Germany.

**Hoover, Calvin B.** Germany enters the Third Reich. New York 1933 Macmillan

The book of the American economist C. B. Hoover is even now of some value, altho it was written in July 1933, when one could not easily survey the political development in Germany. The most important parts of the work deal with economic problems.

**Jaspers, Karl.** Man in the modern age. New York 1933 Henry Holt

This work of the excellent Heidelberg philosopher and psychologist Karl Jaspers was an extraordinary success in Germany. He ought to be read by many Americans, because he gives by far the most thorough and brilliant short analysis of the great social and spiritual tendencies in post-war Germany and in the post-war world as a whole.

\* **Kessler, Graf Harry.** Walther Rathenau, his life and work. New York 1930 Harcourt

Graf Harry Kessler, one of Germany's finest diplomatists, is the author of the best Rathenau biography. The deep tragedy of Walther Rathenau, the murdered thinker, industrial and democratic minister of foreign affairs, was fully revealed by this congenial work. In addition, one may read the other valuable Rathenau biography written by Etta Federn-Kohlhaas (2d ed. Dresden 1928 Carl Reissner) and Emil Ludwig's brilliant essay published in his book *Genius and character* (New York 1930 Cape). See also Rathenau

**Keynes, John Maynard.** The economic consequences of the peace. New York 1920 Harcourt

A prophetic work. John Maynard Keynes, the famous English economist, recognized the mistakes made in the treaty of Versailles earlier than his contemporaries. His work is even now worth reading as a great historical document.

**Keyserling, Graf Hermann.** Europe. New York 1928 Harcourt

This book of the renowned philosopher contains an interesting chapter dealing with Germany. There are many lucid remarks about the national character and the scholar-spirit of the Germans.

**Kittel, Gerhard.** Die Judenfrage. 3d ed. Stuttgart 1934 W. Kohlhammer

Gerhard Kittel, professor of theology at Tübingen university, wishes to combine

Christianity with racial antisemitism. His book has been favored by many German readers, but was strongly criticised by theologians abroad.

**Krieck, Ernst.** Nationalpolitische Erziehung. 19th ed. Leipzig 1935 Armanen-Verlag

Ernst Krieck, professor of philosophy at Heidelberg and first expert of the N.S.D.A.P. in educational problems, discusses the vital questions of national pedagogics in a comparatively moderate manner. A book even an adversary of National Socialism may read without being horrified.

**Kühlmann, Richard von.** Thoughts on Germany. New York 1932 Macmillan

One of the finest collections of political and historical essays written in Germany after the great war. Kühlmann, secretary of state for foreign affairs in 1917-18, is really conversant with Germany's past and present. There are some admirable chapters dealing with the German character, German-French relations and the permanent foundations of German foreign policy.

**Künne, Walther and Schreiner, Helmuth.** Die Nation vor Gott. 3d ed. Berlin 1934 Wichern-Verlag

A first-class handbook of all actual problems regarding Protestantism in the Third Reich. Many influential orthodox theologians contributed to this work which, moreover, deals with the pagan movements in Germany.

**Kuttner, Erich.** Otto Braun. Leipzig 1932 R. Kittler

Otto Braun, socialistic Prime-minister of Prussia from 1920 to 1932, was one of the most powerful personalities of the German republic. His party-friend E. Kuttner, a former member of the Prussian parliament, tells here the story of Braun's life.

**Leipart, Theodor.** Carl Legien. Berlin 1929 Verlagsgesellschaft des Allgemeinen Deutschen Gewerkschaftsbundes

A plain, but moving biography of the late Carl Legien, the one great leader of Germany's socialistic trade-unions, written by his intimate friend and successor Theodor Leipart.

**Lewinsohn (Morus), Richard.** Die umschichtung der europäischen vermögen. 7th ed. Berlin 1926 S. Fischer

The most fascinating report of the changes of power and wealth among the German (and European on the whole) industrials and bankers after the great war.

**Ley, Robert.** Durchbruch der sozialen ehre. Berlin 1935 Mehden-Verlag

The collected speeches of Robert Ley, leader of the national socialistic German

Labor Front and originator of the "Strength through joy" movement. The easiest introduction to the social ideals of the Third Reich.

**\*Ludwig, Emil.** Hindenburg. Philadelphia 1935 John C. Winston

Emil Ludwig, in this country especially well-known for his great biographies of Goethe, Lincoln and Napoleon, gives a comprehensive literary portrait of the second German President. His point of view is a very critical one.

**Mann, Thomas.** Past masters and other papers. New York 1933 Alfred Knopf

Selected essays of the famous Nobel prize-winner and representative novelist of the German republic. The volume contains, e.g. reflections on culture and socialism, on cosmopolitanism, on the theory of Spengler and on Sigmund Freud's position in the history of modern thought. It is a pity that Mann's most important speeches "Von deutscher Republik" and "Deutsche Ansprache" were not included in this translation.

**Means, Paul Banwell.** Things that are Caesar's. The genesis of the German church conflict. New York 1935 Round table press

This excellent book of the American scholar P. B. Means gives the whole historical and theological background of the German church conflict. Means shows its origins in the Hohenzollern empire and in the Weimar republic and investigates tactfully and impartially all the great actual problems up to the beginning of 1934.

**Meinecke, Friedrich.** Nach der Revolution. München 1919 R. Oldenbourg

Five highly remarkable essays of the outstanding liberal historian about the real origins of the revolution of 1918, the problems of democracy and monarchy, and about parallels to the German post-war situation.

**Meissner, Otto and Kaisenberg, Georg.** Staats- und Verwaltungsrecht im Dritten Reich. Berlin 1935 Verlag für Sozialpolitik, Wirtschaft und Statistik

An introduction to the actual public law of Germany. Important because of the personality of Otto Meissner, who has been the always influential state-secretary of the Reichs-presidency under Ebert, Hindenburg and Hitler. In addition one may use Werner Hode, Die Gesetzgebung des Kabinetts Hitler (Berlin 1933-35 Vahlon)

**Menz, Gerhardt.** Kulturwirtschaft. Leipzig 1933 W. R. Lindner

Professor Gerhardt Menz (Leipzig), first German expert for the affairs of book-sellers and publishers, discusses here the actual problems of German cultural life from the economic point of view. His

reflections are of special interest for librarians.

\* **Moeller van den Bruck, Arthur.** Germany's third empire. With introduction by Mary Agnes Hamilton. London 1934 Allen and Unwin

This book was originally issued in 1923, but did not find too many readers. In 1930, reissued, it suddenly became an extraordinary success. Moeller van den Bruck was a conservative writer, but, nevertheless, he was the originator of the ideal of the "Third Reich." The radical National Socialists of today reject his theories. The book is worth reading as a sort of historical document.

\* **Mowrer, Edgar Ansel.** Germany puts the clock back. New York 1933 W. Morrow

E. A. Mowrer, for ten years Berlin correspondent of the *Chicago Daily News*, tells the story of the collapse of the German democracy (up to November 1932) from his own manifold observations.

**Müller, Hermann.** Die Novemberrevolution. Berlin 1928 Der Bücherkreis

The late Chancellor Hermann Müller-Franken, a moderate socialistic politician, reports here the events of the revolution of November 1918 in a very plain and reliable manner.

**Niemöller, Martin.** Vom U-Boot zur Kanzel. Berlin 1934 Martin Warneck

M. Niemöller's autobiography has been a best-seller in Germany for a long time. Everybody was interested in reading the moving story of his life. Niemöller, now the strongest defender of protestant freedom, was a submarine-commander in the great war. The later chapters of the book show the typical life of former officers in the first post-war period.

**Nobel, Alfons.** Brüning. 3d ed. Leipzig 1932 Kittler

A short biography of the former Chancellor Dr. Heinrich Brüning, written by one of his catholic-conservative friends. A first introduction—"faute de mieux."

**Noske, Gustav.** Von Kiel bis Kapp. Berlin 1920 Verlag für Politik und Wirtschaft

The former socialistic minister of the army, had many interesting experiences during the revolutionary period 1918-20, when he was one of Germany's most powerful politicians. His book is a useful source of information.

**Nowak, Karl Friedrich.** Versailles. New York 1929 Harcourt

The most fascinating German book about the peace treaty and its history. Nowak was able to use much private information he had received from statesmen who had played an authoritative part in the tragedy of Versailles.

**Olden, Rudolf.** Stresemann. New York 1930 Dutton

A fine literary portrait of the late Gustav Stresemann, sketched by a democratic journalist. A book worth reading; but neither Olden nor the other biographers of Stresemann wrote the one work we need about the greatest statesman of the German republic. See also Stresemann, Vallentin

**Oncken, Hermann.** Nation und geschichte. Berlin 1935 G. Grote

Hermann Oncken, the most prominent German historian of today, a scholar of the national-liberal type not favored in the Third Reich, has collected his political and historical essays 1919-1935. They deal with all the great problems of his country in a very brilliant manner. A book of lasting value.

**Payer, Friedrich von.** Von Bethmann-Hollweg bis Ebert. Frankfurt a.M. 1923 Frankfurter Sozietätsdruckerei

The late Vice-Chancellor Friedrich von Payer was the most influential democratic statesman in and immediately after the war. His memoirs are a remarkable contribution to the understanding of the first republican period.

**Philo-Lexikon, Handbuch des jüdischen Wissens.** 3d ed. Berlin 1935 Philo-Verlag

A short, but nearly exhausting review of history and present conditions of the German Jews by means of a dictionary. The most reliable and up-to-date source on the Jewish side. In addition, one may read *The Jews in Nazi Germany*, revised edition, New York, 1935, American Jewish Committee.

**Preuss, Hugo.** Staat, recht und freiheit. With an introduction by Theodor Heuss. Tübingen 1926 I. C. B. Mohr

The collected historical and political essays of the originator of the Weimar constitution. In addition to Heuss's remarkable introduction, one should read the booklets of Walther Simons (Berlin 1930 Carl Heymann) and Carl Schmitt (Tübingen 1930 Mohr) about Hugo Preuss.

**Raphael, Gaston.** Hugo Stinnes. French edition: Paris 1924 Payot; German edition: Berlin 1925 Hobbing

The French economist characterises the industrial, commercial and political methods of Hugo Stinnes in a very spirited manner. The only valuable book existing about the most powerful and dangerous figure of Germany's first post-war period.

**Rathenau, Walther.** Briefe. 3 vols. Dresden 1930 Carl Reissner

The collected letters of Walther Rathenau, a man of a rare richness of ideas, belong to the most impressive documents

of Germany's modern history. They take the place of a great autobiography, but are perhaps even more important for the historian than such a book could be.

\* **Rosenberg, Alfred.** *Der Mythos des 20. Jahrhunderts.* Munich 1935 Hoheneichen-Verlag

This work of Hitler's powerful adviser in cultural politics is the most important book of the national-socialistic literature next to *My battle*; it has now a circulation of more than 330,000 copies. It is the main weapon of the neopagan movement against Christianity. German academic youth is especially enthusiastic over Rosenberg's nordic ideal. On the other side, the Pope put it on the "Index librorum prohibitorum." The catholic German bishops edited a scholarly study of defense *Studien zum Mythos des 20. Jahrhunderts* (Kirchlicher Anzeiger für die Erzdiözese Köln, etc. 2d ed. 1935); Rosenberg replied with the pamphlet *An die dunkelmänner unserer zeit* (Munich 1935 Hoheneichen-Verlag). Walther Kunneth's book *Antwort auf den Mythos* (3d ed. Berlin 1935 Wichern-Verlag) defends Protestantism against Rosenberg's ideals.

\* **Schacht, Hjalmar.** *The stabilization of the mark.* London 1927 Allen and Unwin

Hjalmar Schacht, then and now president of the Reichsbank, did good work in stabilizing German currency in 1923. His account of his achievements in this respect is worth reading. A full story of his life is to be found in Franz Reuter's biography *Schacht* (Leipzig 1933 Kittler)

**Schacht, Hjalmar.** *The end of reparations.* New York 1931 Cape and Smith

Schacht, responsible German delegate at the Young conference in Paris, became later on the most embittered fighter against reparations on the whole. This book was written when he had temporarily retired from his office in the Reichsbank.

**Scheidemann, Philipp.** *The making of new Germany.* 2 vols. New York 1929 Appleton

The first Prime-minister of the German republic was the most influential socialistic leader next to Ebert in 1918-19. His memoirs are not a fully reliable source of historiography, but they give a vivid picture of the first post-war period.

**Schiff, Victor.** *Germans at Versailles 1919.* London 1930 Williams and Norgate

An interesting collection of reminiscences written by some members of the German delegation at the peace conference in Versailles. The socialistic politicians Otto Landsberg, Hermann Müller and Friedrich Stampfer contributed to it.

**Schmidt-Ott, Friedrich.** *Festschrift für: "Aus fünfzig Jahren deutscher Wissenschaft."* Ed. Gustav Abb. Berlin 1930 de Gruyter, Herder, Oldenbourg, Teubner

The finest existing survey of the achievements of German scholars in the last generations, written in honor of the former minister of education Friedrich Schmidt-Ott. A first-class introduction for cultivated laymen. Among the contributors are the Nobel prize-winners James Franck, Fritz Haber and Max Planck. Librarians will be especially interested in the splendid essay of Fritz Milkau, former director-general of the library of the Prussian state, about the German libraries.

**Schmitt, Carl.** *Verfassungslehre.* Munich 1928 Duncker und Humblot

Professor Carl Schmitt is the most influential expert of the N.S.-government for all questions of public law. His *Verfassungslehre* shows his ability in the field of constitutional theory. One may read his pamphlets *Staat, bewegung, volk* and *Die drei arten des rechtswissenschaftlichen denkens* (Berlin 1933 and 1934) so as to be informed of his actual tendencies.

**Schultze-Pfälzer, Gerhard.** *Hindenburg; peace-war-aftermath.* London 1931 Philip Allan

A sympathetic biography of the late President, written by one of his younger friends and admirers. After Hindenburg's death, Schultze-Pfälzer rewrote the whole book from the national socialistic point of view: *Hindenburg. Ein leben für Deutschland.* (Berlin 1934 Ullstein)

**Schweitzer, Albert.** *My life and thought.* London 1933 Allen and Unwin

This autobiographical book of the eminent theologian, philosopher, musician and missionary physician Albert Schweitzer ought to be read by everybody desiring to study the true virtues of the German national character. The overwhelming document of a noble-minded man and masterly thinker.

\* **Seeckt, Hans von.** *Thoughts of a soldier.* Introduction by Sir Jan Hamilton. London 1930 Benn

Colonel-general Hans von Seeckt, brilliant staff-officer in the great war and organizer of the modern German army 1920-26, is, moreover, an excellent writer on military and political problems. This is by far his best book; it gives the broad outlines of his ideals as a soldier. In addition, one may read his works *Future of the German empire* (New York 1930 Dutton) and *Die Reichswehr* (Leipzig 1933 Kittler)

**Sieburg, Friedrich.** *Germany; my country!* London 1933 Jonathan Cape

The well-known German journalist tries to interpret the German national charac-

ter in the sense of the N.S.D.A.P. A fascinating book because of the literary ability of the author who admits—in a prefatory letter to the English publisher—being a sort of evangelist of the Third Reich.

**Sombart, Werner.** Deutscher Sozialismus. Berlin 1934 Buchholz und Weisswange

The famous Berlin economist Werner Sombart is a follower of the N.S.-government, but not an uncritical one. He tries to give a consistent view of Germany's social problems and discusses the great political and social problems in a seldom convincing, but always spirited manner.

\* **Spengler, Oswald.** The hour of decision. New York 1934 Alfred Knopf

The world-renowned author of the *Decline of the West* belongs—like Sombart—to the friends of National Socialism, but he is an even much stronger critic of our times than that economist. His last book was written before the revolution of 1933, but contains, especially in the preface, many vehement remarks of misgiving about the attitude of the ruling party.

**Staatslexikon der Görres-Gesellschaft.** Ed. by Hermann Sacher. 5 vols. 5th ed. Freiburg 1926-32 Herder

The great Catholic dictionary of political science. Contains highly valuable contributions by the best Catholic experts in public law, economics, cultural politics and history.

**Steed, Wickham.** Hitler—whence and whither? 3d ed. London 1934 Nisbet

The former editor-in-chief of the London *Times* is one of Hitler's most inexorable critics. He deals with the "nordic legend," Hitler's life, the problem of mass suggestion, the Jewish question and the totalitarian state.

\* **Stegemann, Hermann.** Weltwende. Stuttgart 1934 Deutsche Verlagsanstalt

The well-known German-Swiss writer (author of the *History of the war*, *The mirage of Versailles*, etc.) shows here the origins of the Third Reich and reports its first year of existence. Stegemann is an admirer of National Socialism, but possesses perspective and tact.

\* **Stresemann, Gustav.** His diaries, letters and papers. vol. I. New York 1935 Macmillan; German edition: *Vermächtnis* 3 vols. Berlin 1932-33 Ullstein

These documents were collected after Stresemann's premature death. They give a better understanding of his great achievements and the tragedy of his life. Altho the German editors of the work did not show a special sense of political responsibility, this "bequest" is of a high value

for every serious reader. In addition, one should read the English edition of Stresemann's *Essays and speeches on various subjects* prefaced by Sir Austen Chamberlain (London 1930 Thornton Butterworth).

**Thrasolt, Ernst.** Carl Sonnenschein. Munich 1932 Koesel und Pustet

The late Carl Sonnenschein was the most impressive and sympathetic clerical figure in post-war Germany, perhaps in some respects the Catholic counterpart of the Protestant Albert Schweitzer. This biography is excellently written, altho Thrasolt sometimes seems to be too critical.

**Toller, Ernst.** I was a German. New York 1934 William Morrow

The radical poet Ernst Toller who played a part in the Munich revolutionary events of 1919 tells the story of his life from 1893-1933. Some interesting sidelights, but not a reliable source of political information.

**Troeltsch, Ernst.** Spectator-Briefe. Tübingen 1924 Mohr

The late Berlin philosopher was not only a great scholar, but also an active personality in politics; he was secretary of state for education. These letters written for a periodical reproduce his impressions during the first post-war period; they are one of the best documents of that era.

**Vallentin, Antonina.** Frustration. Stresemann's race with death. new ed. London 1935 Constable

A very informative book dealing especially with Stresemann's last years. The author belonged to the inner circle of Stresemann's journalistic collaborators.

\* **Villard, Oswald Garrison.** The German phoenix. New York 1933 Smith and Haas

The editor of the *Nation* presents the history of the German republic from a liberal point of view. His book shows an unusually thoro knowledge of German life and affairs and can be recommended to the American reader, altho it was finished before the decisive events of January 1933.

**Wassermann, Jakob.** My life as German and Jew. New York 1933 Coward-McCann

The late Jakob Wassermann, one of Germany's finest novelists, wrote this autobiographical book long before the national socialist revolution. He shows there from his own experiences in a very touching manner, how being a Jew in Germany was always the reason of copious misunderstandings, tragedies, conflicts, quarrels and sufferings.

(Continued on page 525)

# Campaigning for Young Readers

*By A. Helene Scherff\**



FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY, BLOOMFIELD, N. J.

ABOUT two years ago, the statistics in the juvenile department of the Bloomfield Public Library began to go the way of all things that had been especially stimulated by the economic depression. As children began to get enough pin money for the movies and to indulge in other pleasures involving expense, circulation records at the library took a sharp plunge downward.

Instead of merely bemoaning the situation, the ingenious assistant in the children's room bethought her of a scheme. Now the second successful year of the junior book club sponsored by the Bloomfield Public Library has just been completed. Begun in November 1933, during National Book Week as the experimental venture of Miss Barbara E. Schroeder, assistant in the children's room and club advisor, it was announced to the public by attractive posters on the charging and registration desks of the junior department.

Meetings were held on Saturday mornings from eleven to twelve o'clock in the auditorium of the library. The club was named

at the first meeting: the B.P.L. Club. The meaning of the abbreviations, Bloomfield Public Library Club, was withheld from all but the initiate. A constitution was drawn up and adopted. Regular parliamentary procedure was instituted and has been followed faithfully. Members have needed little encouragement to manage the affairs of their club, but have welcomed the subtle guidance of their advisor.

A general plan for the year was formulated during the first month. It was decided that the last Saturday of each month was to be given over to some form of entertainment by members. These special meetings challenged club talent and produced such varieties as short moving picture reels shown by an enterprising boy and a one-man puppet show that proved so popular it had to be repeated at a later date. Holidays were celebrated with appropriate programs. For the regular meetings, there were book reviews, titles of which had been chosen from graded reading lists. Book reviews were far from colorless, for they included the singing of songs, poetry

\*In charge of publicity, Bloomfield (N.J.) Public Library.



recitations and story dramatizations, which brought to light unsuspected versatility among the members.

Bloomfield is a town of approximately 40,000 inhabitants. Ten elementary schools and two parochial, which adequately cover the area, were the sources from which the enrollments for the book club were drawn. Children from the second thru the ninth grades were eligible, but none from the eighth or ninth grades were interested.

Reports of club activities—written by the club secretary and edited by Miss Schroeder—were sent each week to the *Independent Press*, Bloomfield's weekly newspaper. Enthusiastic word-of-mouth reporting was probably responsible for much of the juvenile eagerness with which Saturday mornings were anticipated. During the first year, which ended in May, there were forty names on the roster, with an average attendance of eighteen.

The first meeting of the second year was held on the last Saturday of September 1934. Special announcements had been sent to the schools, new posters were made for the public library, and the usual *Independent Press* publicity was carried out. A question contest, built around suggestions in an issue of the *Wilson Bulletin*, proved very popular whenever it was used thru the year. It was conducted by lining up the children in the old-fashioned spelling-bee formation, and giving them questions about books, characters, authors, etc. Due to the dissimilarity of school ages, the questions were carefully graded.

The most successful feature of the 1934-'35 year was the membership drive. This was instituted to increase interest in general and to add numbers to the small group of "regulars." The membership was accordingly divided in half, and two teams, the "Reds" and the "Blues" were organized. Each participant was given a button on which was printed I BELONG TO THE PUBLIC LIBRARY READING CLUB. The following points were granted: 1 for a new member;  $\frac{1}{4}$  for the best book review of the day;  $\frac{1}{4}$  for a class room "publicity"

speech. Good order during meetings was insured by fining the side of an offending member  $\frac{1}{4}$  point;  $\frac{1}{4}$  was also taken away for an unprepared book review when no provision had been made for a substitute. Each side was given an opportunity to prepare one program of entertainment, and 5 points were given for the better one. In the question contests, the winning team was awarded 5 points.

Altho not even the most optimistic observer could have anticipated as splendid a year as 1934-'35 proved to be, not everything that the group attempted proved successful. A newspaper, *The Blast*, was eagerly accepted as an idea, but never became a reality. Altho one of the members had a printing press at home, it was impossible for the appointed committee to meet to work out details for publication. Too many calls upon the children's time forced Miss Schroeder to abandon this and any other venture that needed outside preparation.

The club boasted a membership of ninety-eight on April 27, at the close of its year. The average attendance had been thirty-five; the largest number at a meeting was fifty-seven. The increase in the Saturday morning circulation of children's books was very marked.

An outdoor dutch-treat picnic lunch was planned for a near-by park for the grand finale. Weather conditions, however, dictated that the scene be laid in the auditorium of the library. Since the "Blues" had won the membership contest, the "Reds" acted as hosts and hostesses, planning the games and seeing that the plans were carried out. Lollypops proved popular prizes. "Dixie cups" and peanuts were supplied by the library.

For the fall opening of the book club, Miss Schroeder plans to produce a play which has been rehearsed during the summer. Post card invitations will be sent to all registered members. The courtesy of the *Independent Press* will again be asked for two weeks' pre-opening publicity.

## Music in the Public Library

By Robert R. Bruce\*

THE constantly widening activity of the public library is still bringing into its grasp new departments, new fields of service. Didn't the late John Cotton Dana rebuke the library for usurping the functions of the newspaper and the school? Some of the much-publicized developments such as adult education are open to criticism by the purists of the library world, but what can they say about a department that has quietly grown during the

past twenty-five years to an important but unpressaganted place—the music department?

In the 1935 edition of Pierre Kuy's *Music Year Book*, eleven pages are devoted to music in general libraries, chiefly public libraries. Thirty-two states are represented by libraries that vary amazingly in size and content. A few give figures as to circulation and in many cases collections are noted as "for home use" or "circulated last year."

\* A.L.A.-Carnegie Fellow, Yale University.



NORTH END OF MUSIC DEPARTMENT, LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY

Owing to the lack of a uniform system of music statistics for music departments, comparisons are difficult, but a brief survey of one department may throw some light on this rather recent development in library service.

In the music department of the Los Angeles Public Library is a collection of over 20,000 bound and cataloged music scores, volumes of music, sheet music, etc. The department's classification list shows twenty-six main headings. Twenty-one of these are for the music of different instruments; the others include such large classes as vocal music (solos, duets, trios, choruses, etc.), orchestral scores and vocal scores of operas. For the year ending June 30, 1934, there were circulated from this collection 99,999 items. Even without a survey we know that a large part of this circulation comes from certain classes such as piano, songs and violin and piano. However, to gain some idea as to the distribution of circulation by class and as to the general use of the collection a count was kept during the week of March 18-23, 1935. This week, chosen at random, proved to be below the 1934 average with a total circulation of 1,712. This was distributed as follows:

Monday .....	323
Tuesday .....	316
Wednesday .....	275
Thursday .....	318
Friday .....	257
Saturday .....	223

## Circulation by class:

Piano solo .....	476
Vocal solo .....	235
Violin and piano .....	169
Operas, vocal scores .....	145

Trios, instrumental .....	83
Quartets, instrumental .....	64
Scores (parts) for small orchestra .....	50
Folk songs (albums) .....	48
Two pianos .....	41
Organ .....	41
Flute and piano .....	39
Folk dances (albums) .....	38
Cello and piano .....	38
Choral music .....	32
Piano methods .....	31
Quintets, instrumental .....	22
Sacred music—hymn books, oratorios, etc. ....	21
Piano duet .....	14
Miniature scores .....	14
Oboe and piano .....	12
Vocal methods .....	10
Saxophone and piano .....	10
Ballets, piano scores .....	9
Clarinet and piano .....	9
Violin methods .....	9
Two violins .....	8
Vocal duets .....	8
Horn and piano .....	5
Viola and piano .....	5
Trombone and piano .....	4
Piano accordion .....	4
Guitar .....	4
Cornet and piano .....	2
Two pianos; 8 hands .....	2
Banjo .....	1
Mandolin .....	1
Ukelele .....	1

No count was kept by composer, but it was evident that while Beethoven and Bach are still most in demand, there is a strong demand for the moderns and Debussy has almost, if not quite, equalled Chopin in popularity.

Tho brief, such a check shows the possibilities in music circulation from the public library. To the music librarian, the tabulation reveals clearly some of the peculiar problems in this field. There is the terrific expense of binding. Even a red-rope cover frequently costs more than the music it shelters. The cost of binding the chamber

music scores and the larger opera scores makes one shudder. The cost of the music itself is a mounting item. Foreign publications, such as the Durand catalog, are "out of sight" and there are no American editions. Varying exchange rates makes foreign ordering a hazardous affair. Catalog prices are never right. And it is next to impossible to keep an up-to-date file of music catalogs.

The attitude of the American music publishers would indicate that they have not yet realized the possibilities of the public library's music department. Book publishers cultivate every possible library contact such as catalogs and approvals. The voluntary sending of catalogs is as yet unknown to the music publishing trade and approvals are left to the local dealer. It is difficult to obtain even recent lists from many publishers. It would seem, from the librarian's point of view, that both sides would benefit from closer cooperation between music department and publisher, even as the book trade co-operates with the book departments of the library.

A study of one of the older and larger music departments such as that of Boston

or the 58th St. branch of the New York Public Library would give a still better idea as to the possibilities of this work, but even this brief survey shows that the public library is becoming a force to be reckoned with by the music publishers. It may be that the book publishers will enter the music field and clear up the unsatisfactory conditions. Already, albums published by Appleton and Scribner's have been widely used in libraries because of their usefulness in their class and because of the ease with which they are ordered and replaced. They suffer from a monotonous use of hackneyed material. The new series published by Harcourt Brace, of which *In the Days of the Harpsichord* (piano), *The Days of Bach and Corelli* (violin and piano) and *Music for Two Pianos* are good examples, is an advance in the right direction. The music included is well selected and arranged and the printing is excellent. If some enterprising editor will do for modern music what Wier has done for the classics, music librarians will call him blessed and contribute to his defense against the copyright ogres.

## Books for Catholic Boys and Girls

[EDITOR'S NOTE—This bibliography was compiled by the Catholic Committee of the Department of Work with Children of the Los Angeles Public Library at the request of Monsignor Conaty, a member of the Library Board. It is contributed to the *Wilson Bulletin* by the Book Evaluation Committee of the Section for Work with Children of the American Library Association, Gladys English, Chairman.

Separate multigraphed copies of this list are obtainable from the Department of Work with Children, Los Angeles Public Library, for 5 cents each, 10 copies for 25 cents.—S.J.K.]

### THE BIBLE

THE CHRIST CHILD, told by Matthew and Luke. il. by Maud and Miska Petersham. Doubleday, 1931. \$2.00

THE LORD'S PRAYER; il. by Ingri and Edgar d'Aulaire. Doubleday, 1934. \$1.75  
Catholic version.

A FIRST BIBLE; il. by Helen Sewell. Oxford, 1934. \$2.50

Stories from the King James Bible.

LIFE OF CHRIST FOR CHILDREN. Longmans, 1925. \$1.50

Recommended by Cardinal Gibbons.

### THE HEAVENLY HOST

BOUTET DE MONVEL, L. M. Joan of Arc. Century, 1907. \$4.00

COLUM, PADRAIC. Legend of St. Columba. Macmillan, 1935. \$2.25

EATON, JEANETTE. Jeanne d'Arc. Harper, 1931. \$1.35

EATON, JEANETTE. The Flame: Saint Catherine of Siena. Harper, 1931. \$2.50

EGAN, M. F. Everybody's St. Francis. Century, 1912. \$3.50

GHEON, HENRI. St. Germaine of the Wolf Country. Longmans, 1932. 50c

JEWETT, SOPHIE. God's Troubadour. Crowell, 1910. \$2.00

St. Francis of Assisi.

MONAHAN, MAUD. A Boy's Choice. Longmans, 1926. \$1.25

St. Aloysius.

MONAHAN, MAUD. Children's Saint. Longmans, 1927. \$1.40

St. Madeleine-Sophie.

MONAHAN, MAUD. On the King's Highway. Longmans, 1927. \$1.40

St. Stanislaus of Poland.

SCHMIDT-PAULI, ELIZABETH VON. Little Saint Elizabeth. Macmillan, 1933. \$1.00

SCHMIDT-PAULI, ELIZABETH VON. Little Saint Therese. Macmillan, 1933. \$1.00  
The Little Flower.

BROWN, A. F. Book of Saints and friendly Beasts. Houghton, 1900. \$1.50

CANTON, WILLIAM. Child's Book of Saints. Dutton, 1906. \$1.00

CHENOWETH, CAROLINE. Stories of the Saints. Houghton, 1907. \$2.00

STEEDMAN, AMY. In God's Garden. Nelson, 1906. \$2.00

## CRUSADERS OF THE FAITH

- BOLTON, IVY. Shadow of the crown. Longmans, 1931. \$2.00  
 DONAUR, FREDRICH. Long Defence. Longmans, 1931. \$2.00  
 HEWES, A. D. Boy of the Lost Crusade. Houghton, 1923. \$2.50  
 WILMOT-BUXTON, E. M. Story of the crusades. Crowell, 1927. \$1.75

## STORIES OF DAYS GONE-BY

- DANIEL, HAWTHORNE. Shadow of the Sword. Macmillan, 1930. \$2.50  
 DOWNES, H. S. Filippo the Jongleur; a Romance of Franciscan Times. Longmans, 1932. \$2.00  
 FIELD, RACHEL. Calico Bush. Macmillan, 1931. \$2.50  
 HEWES, A. D. Spice and the Devil's Cave. Knopf, 1930. \$2.50  
 KELLY, E. P. Trumpeter of Krakow. Macmillan, 1928. \$2.50  
 KENT, L. A. He went with Marco Polo. Houghton, 1935. \$2.00  
 KYLE, A. D. Apprentice of Florence. Houghton, 1935. \$2.00  
 LOWNSBERRY, ELOISE. Boy Knight of Reims. Houghton, 1927. \$2.50  
 NOLAN, J. C. Young Douglas. McBride, 1934. \$2.50  
 STEIN, EVALEEN. Gabriel and the Hour Book. Page, 1906. \$1.65

## IN CATHOLIC LANDS

- BAZIN, RENE. Juniper Farm. Macmillan, 1928. \$1.75  
 BRANN, ESTHER. Lupe goes to School. Macmillan, 1930. \$1.50  
 CLEMENT, MARGUERITE. Once in France. Doubleday, 1927. \$2.00  
 COLUM, PADRAIC. Boy in Eirinn. Dutton, 1926. \$2.00  
 HILDRUP, J. S. Missions of California. McClurg, 1928. \$3.00  
 HILL, HELEN. Little Tonino. Macmillan, 1928. \$1.75  
 JORDAN, C. B. Discovering Christopher Columbus. Macmillan, 1932. \$3.00  
 JACKSON, H. H. Ramona. Little, 1932. \$3.50  
 New illustrated edition.  
 KELLY, E. P. Christmas nightingale. Macmillan, 1932. \$1.00  
 SEREDY, KATE. Good Master. Viking, 1935. \$2.00  
 SHANNON, MONICA. Dobry. Viking, 1934. \$2.00  
 SILVESTRE, CHARLES. Aimee Villard, Daughter of France. Macmillan, 1928. \$1.75  
 TRIGGS, L. B. Rosalita. Century, 1932. \$2.00

## CHURCH ART AND ARCHITECTURE

- GIBSON, KATHERINE. Goldsmith of Florence. Macmillan, 1929. \$5.00  
 HILLIER, V. M. Child's History of Art. Appleton-Century, 1933. \$3.50  
 LAMPREY, LOUISE. All the Ways of Building. Macmillan, 1933. \$3.50

## LEGEND AND SONG

- A ROUND OF CAROLS; il. by Helen Sewell. Oxford, 1935. \$2.00  
 Carols of all seasons and all ages.  
 DARTON, F. J. H. Story of the Canterbury Pilgrims. Stokes. \$3.00  
 DAVIS, M. G. Truce of the Wolf and other Tales of old Italy. Harcourt, 1931. \$2.00  
 MASSON, ELSIE. Folk Tales of Brittany. Macrae, 1929. \$3.00  
 SMITH, SUSAN. Tranquilina's paradise. Minton, 1930. \$1.00  
 THOMPSON, J. With harp and lute. Macmillan, 1935. \$1.25

## DEFENDERS OF THE FAITH

- EL CID CAMPEADOR. Tale of the Warrior Lord; tr. by Merriam Sherwood. Longmans, 1930. \$2.50  
 COLLIER, V. M. Roland the Warrior. Harcourt, 1934. \$2.75  
 JOHNSON, RICHARD. Seven Champions of Christendom. Stokes. \$3.00  
 KENTON, EDNA. With Hearts Courageous. Liveright, 1933. \$2.00  
 French Jesuit missionaries in the New World.

## Books on Modern Germany

(Continued from page 520)

- Weber, Marianne. Max Weber. Tübingen 1926 Mohr

One of the best German biographies published in recent decades. Marianne Weber, formerly one of the leaders of the German women's movement, gives a great literary portrait of her husband Max Weber who was one of the most important German sociologists and, moreover, a democratic politician of a rare clear-sightedness. In addition, one ought to read his *Gesammelte politische Schriften* (Munich 1921 Drei Masken Verlag)

- Wentzke, Paul. Der Ruhrkampf. 2 vols. Berlin 1930-32 R. Hobbing

The German standard work about the deplorable events of 1923 in Rhineland and Westphalia, written by a trustworthy specialist in Rhenish history.

- \* *Zehn Jahre deutscher Geschichte 1918-28* (2d ed.) Berlin 1928 Otto Stollberg

An unrivalled survey of the first decade of the Weimar republic. Some excellent men like Stresemann, Wilhelm Ostwald, Oncken, von Molo, contributed to it.

- eig, Arnold. Bilanz der deutschen Judenheit. Amsterdam 1934 Querido

The well-known author discusses here the achievements of the German Jews in a very vivid manner. It is, of course, an apologetic book, but worth reading.

# Junior Librarians Section\*

## Aspirations of the Young Librarians

By Elizabeth Baker †

I BELIEVE that most librarians, young and old alike, are looking forward to a day when libraries will be widely spread thruout our country—libraries which will be adequately equipped, adequately financed, and adequately staffed. It is foolish to cherish illusions that this ideal is a conscious part of every librarian's daily thoughts. Many are too deeply burdened by their endless daily cares to keep before them a clear vision of the ideal. But consciously or unconsciously we are working toward that end. All of us have an opportunity to stimulate the growth of public interest in libraries; first, by doing our own jobs well; second, by maintaining an active interest and broad acquaintanceship in the life of our communities; and third, by keeping well informed of events in the library world outside our local spheres, so that we may profit from the experience and knowledge of fellow librarians. In spite of our inexperience, I think we younger librarians are alive to this responsibility and this opportunity and are bending our efforts to meet it.

The junior members of the library profession particularly aspire to active participation in an expanding library program. Young library school graduates enter their new world with an enthusiasm of spirit and an accumulation of energy that are crying out to be used. We younger librarians are anxious to learn and to help and we are looking toward our seniors for stimulating leadership. Without such leadership many juniors lose their enthusiasm and allow their energies to be diverted to other interests. A number of younger librarians with whom I have talked believe that the average library school graduate, unencouraged, can maintain her enthusiasm for something like five years, that during these years it grows weaker and weaker until it finally dies, solely and simply from lack of encouragement. There are few who find within themselves the capacity to hold to their original enthusiasm if they are not helped to do so, and given some opportunity to make use of their abilities.

We have found much variation in attitudes of administrators toward younger members of their staffs. In a few libraries there appears

to be a definite policy of subordination—a grim determination to stifle any enthusiasm and kill any initiative that threatens to crop up among the juniors. In vivid contrast to this, but again in only a few libraries, is the policy of active encouragement of responsibility and initiative in young assistants. But the general agreement of juniors is that a very large proportion of libraries have complete absence of policy, good or bad, and that nothing is so deadening as indifference. We hope that any of you who are guilty of this attitude will indulge in a few private blushes and make a few public amends.

The attitude we find hardest to bear is the ready patronage of some of our elders. A figurative pat on the head, an indulgent smile, are infuriating substitutes for the cooperation and understanding we need and want. As one young librarian remarked, "We aren't trying to make mud-pies or fly kites. We're trying to be better librarians and our seniors should actively help, not smirk. They were in our shoes once themselves."

Surely it is an obligation for the older members of the profession to stimulate professional enthusiasm and initiative in their juniors, to teach them to carry responsibility, to help them to a fuller knowledge and clearer vision of the aims of the profession. Many of them do feel this obligation and more than fulfill it, but a still larger number remains indifferent. Probably not one library executive would disapprove in principle the value of encouraging professional interest in young assistants, but how many of these care enough to put this principle into practice? If they have any love for their profession, one would expect them to be anxious to train the librarians of the future to be ready for approaching responsibilities.

It would be gratifying to us if more senior librarians would take to heart the sentiment Mr. Charles H. Compton expressed in his presidential address at Denver: "Certainly we shall need the help of younger members of our profession. We should call on them more often. We should place more responsibility upon them. We should give them every opportunity for initiative and for leadership."

\* A monthly department. Junior groups, staff associations, discussion clubs, etc., are invited to send regular reports as to activities, projects, debates, and recommendations. These columns are open also to individual librarians for correspondence and articles pertaining to the work and welfare of library assistants.

† Library assistant, Tennessee Valley Authority Wilson Dam, Alabama. Read before Pennsylvania Library Association Meeting, October 3-5, 1935.

Many of us believe that staff discussion groups would be a satisfactory outlet for some of our energy and a stimulant to creative thinking and self-expression. We agree rather unitedly on the importance of being able to speak expressively about our profession, and feel it is something to be learned as early as possible. Mr. Milton Ferguson, writing on this ability for expression in the August 1935 *Library Journal* said "...silvery speech is born with few of us, but I am told it may actually be acquired. Since we have such precious goods to sell, it is folly to forget the package."

The proposed staff discussion groups could meet frequently. Their members would be constantly alert to exchange new idea about books, about people, about library matters, and about events in the world in which we live. They would develop greater social consciousness thru these discussions. They would become much more persuasive and interesting representatives of their libraries. They would be more able and more likely to induce growth of public interest in libraries.

It is preferable that such discussion groups be composed of both younger and older librarians so that experience and freshness of outlook can properly balance each other. Ordinarily this is a profitable arrangement, but there are still a few institutions where young assistants feel (not without cause) that a sincere expression of opinion may cost them their jobs, or at least place them under a very uncomfortable cloud of displeasure. This does not mean that the young assistants wish to expound revolutionary ideas—very few young librarians are revolutionaries—but merely that the profession does include some individuals with closed minds, ready to resent any ideas different from their own, and unwilling to entertain argument about them.

Partly because of the general lack of such local discussion groups there have come into being a number of junior discussion groups at national and state meetings. In 1931, at the New Haven meeting of the American Library Association, about two hundred young librarians met for informal discussion of matters of particular interest to junior members of the library profession. This discussion group was known as the Junior Members Round Table. Every year since a discussion meeting has been held at the national convention, attended by juniors from many sections of the country. In 1933 they decided, rightly I think, not to organize as a section of the A.L.A. but to continue in the same informal manner. At these meetings the young librarians present began to practice on each other the expression of ideas and found to their satisfaction that discussion was very stimulating, and to their dismay that some of their

contemporaries were well informed on matters they themselves knew nothing about. They went away from those meetings eager to be better informed and to learn how to express themselves well.

The juniors who attended national meetings found it pleasant and profitable to meet one another and exchange ideas, but the percentage of younger librarians able to attend A.L.A. conventions frequently is very small. As a consequence, in a number of states junior librarians are arranging for one discussion period at the general state meeting. The principal idea behind all these groups is to provide an opportunity for new librarians to meet each other and to learn how to express themselves and formulate ideas on professional matters. The art of expression can be acquired only thru practice. We think it is natural and sensible to practice on each other. Only a few juniors can have an opportunity to take part in the general meetings. The junior discussion group gives a much larger number of young librarians a chance for practice in voicing their ideas. These groups are in no sense set up in rivalry with the regular meetings and discussions where we have much to learn from the experience of our elders.

The charge has been made against us that we are egocentric and selfish. I believe this cannot entirely be denied. Egocentricity is a quality of youth. Contrary to some assertions it is not peculiarly a product of modern youth; youth of all ages has inclined to selfishness and egocentricity and this modern generation is no worse than any other. This characteristic may influence us to emphasize and dwell on matters which pertain to ourselves, but it does not influence us to be unfair or prejudiced. Given the opportunity we will grow away from egocentricity. One junior member writes me: "This quality could be diverted and used to good advantage if those same younger librarians were given a chance to use their abilities where their egos might find wholesome food."

As junior members of our profession we are asking for guidance and for such responsibility and opportunity as can reasonably be given us. I have not spoken with any young librarian who feels that any premium should be placed on youth as such—any more than it should be placed on age as such. But we maintain that youth should be no drawback to recognition of individual merit and ability.

I now come to the time-honored question of low salaries. It is a problem affecting the whole profession, young and old. The junior members of the profession believe, with their elders, that salary standards should be raised. Inevitably a larger proportion of younger librarians are drawing the very lowest salaries. Until the standards of the profession as a

whole have been raised we can hardly expect to have our position improved. We know that a large number of older librarians deplore these conditions, because we have heard them say so. We also know that until most of the members of our profession, young and old, take an active interest in attaining better salary standards the conditions will remain to be deplored. One junior comments that "Librarians have been too unselfish, too sublimated to demand a high enough price for their services and the world has taken them at their own external and apparent valuation." There is much yet to be done in convincing the general public of the value of libraries and in establishing recognition of them as a definite instrument of common progress.

The pitiful thing about low salaries is the effect they have on our ability to give the best service. They necessitate the most careful and painful economy which draws on our energy. They burden us with financial worries. The little economies we practice take up time we might be using to better fit ourselves for our work. We have little or no money with which to take advantage of opportunities for cultural advancement.

It is generally agreed among junior librarians that certification is necessary and desirable. We believe this will be one means of attacking the salary situation, of contributing to wider public recognition of the profession, and of maintaining a standard of librarianship which will result in better library service.

I should like to mention several concrete plans suggested to me by younger librarians. They are not untried, but have by no means come into general use. First, the practice of giving an assistant one or two hours from her working time each week for the purpose of reading, study, or browsing, so she may be better acquainted with the books with which

she works, and may use them more intelligently and serviceably. Second, provision of leaves of absence for graduate study, from which the assistant would not return to find her position filled. An even more hopeful scheme provides for financial assistance for such study.

Third, a plan by which an assistant from one library may be temporarily exchanged with an assistant from another. Within the larger libraries there could also be a system of interdepartmental exchanges. In library school we are introduced to many divisions of library work, but it takes practical experience to give us a good working background. Too much specialization at the outset is narrowing. We are likely to underestimate the importance of lines of work other than our own. The plan of exchanges would be profitable both to the assistants and to the libraries concerned: to the assistants because they would gain valuable personal experience, to the libraries because they would gain more capable assistants with higher potential value as future executives. Such an arrangement would be especially useful in times of depression when assistants who wish varied experience find that opportunities for making a change of position are few.

Looking back over all that has been said, it appears that most of us are looking forward to an expanding library program, to an opportunity to engage in professional discussion, to assume responsibility, to progress in our profession. There exists and will always exist some difference in the points of view of younger and older members of the profession. But we must conclude that, on the whole, the aspirations of junior librarians for their profession, and for themselves as individuals in the profession, are much the same as the aspirations of our seniors.

## Round the Table

### The Seattle Discussion Group

#### To the Editor:

The activities of the Library Discussion Group of Seattle have aroused a good deal of interest among librarians of this city and the vicinity during the past several months. Believing that they might prove equally interesting to members of the profession in other parts of the country, we are sending to you and to the *Bulletin* of the American Library Association a summary of some of its recent activities.

The Library Discussion Group of Seattle, sponsored by the University of Washington

Library School Alumni Association, grew out of a statement made at the annual banquet of the Association last May. At that time a desire was expressed for more frequent meetings which would allow for a closer study of social and professional problems than was afforded by the various regional organizations. Since that time monthly meetings have been held, attended by librarians from the University of Washington and Seattle Public Libraries and from neighboring cities, and by students of the Library School.

One of the most interesting and valuable meetings was that held in November. Questionnaires were sent to 43 libraries throughout the

country having civil service requirements, requesting information as to set-up, operation, and specific advantages and disadvantages of that system. The results were presented to the Group, which after full discussion came to the conclusion that tho it favored civil service for public employees, as a powerful deterrent to the spoils system, it did question its applicability to librarians. It was felt that the results of the questionnaire indicated that civil service had not in general secured better personnel standards for libraries functioning under it, and in many cases was a handicap, for the following reasons: the residential requirements are a definite hindrance to the securing of efficient personnel and the raising of recruitment standards; the examinations are often an inadequate test of ability; the usual provision of limiting the librarian's choice to the three highest candidates, while allowing some selection on the basis of personality, is not always successful; the assurance of tenure tends to foster inertia; the difficulty of discharging incompetents except for grave misdemeanors may result in the retention of "dead wood" and mediocrity. As to the argument that civil service prevents political appointments, the results seem to indicate that there has not been the same prevalence of political appointments in the library field as in other governmental positions; the certification law for librarians in this state will prevent the employment of people with no library training and uphold professional standards. The following recommendation was adopted: "This group opposes civil service for librarians. It further recommends, however, that every effort be made to cooperate with governmental employee groups working toward better personnel policies." The findings of the Civil Service Committee proved of much practical value later when the question of civil service for librarians of this state actually did arise.

The December meeting was devoted to a study of the various regional organizations. The presidents of the Pacific Northwest and Washington Library Associations, Constance Ewing and Judson T. Jennings, and the chairman of the Puget Sound Library Club, Helen Johns, explained the aims, accomplishments, and future purposes of their particular groups. The discussion which followed, while centered around the work of these organizations, led to the expression of very interesting and widely differing views as to the position the library should take as a social force in the world of today.

The subject for January was "Social Insurance." The various forms which charity has taken thru the ages in England and America were traced. The Group then proceeded to a study and discussion of three present day

forms of social insurance of immediate interest to librarians—the Wagner-Lewis, Lundeen, and Lundeen-Frazier Bills. A. L. A. annuities as well came in for a share of attention.

Plans for the next few months include some interesting topics—federal and state aid; pressure politics; "Friends of the Library" movements; modern trends in education and their relation to the library; staff specialization; the problem of professional vs. clerical work. Altogether, members of the Library Discussion Group (who include anyone wishing to attend) look forward to a stimulating and worthwhile future!

ELEANOR HARMON, *Secretary*  
University of Washington Library  
School Alumni Association

## The Frazier Bill

*From the Pennsylvania Jr. Members Newsletter, January 1936:*

"Last year we talked ourself blue in the face for and about the Lundeen bill. It was the one piece of proposed social legislation which would have included librarians in its old age pension plan and unemployment insurance.

"We went to Denver expecting to find other like-minded advocates of the Lundeen Bill among librarians, especially younger librarians whom the economics of the last few years have affected most. We found only one person who had ever heard of it.

"The Frazier bill of the present session is the Lundeen bill under a new name. It is the only bill under which librarians (those poor "forgotten" creatures) are covered. Personally we anticipate having an old age and we have none too rosy hopes at the moment of amassing a great reserve income to take care of us in it. We are interested in the Frazier bill, very much interested."

## New Jersey Group

Helen T. Ziegler ("Please remember that I am your most devoted reader!") of the Montclair, N.J., Public Library, writes:

May I call to the attention of all young librarians (and older ones, too), my letter in the March *Wilson Bulletin* (p.481) about a proposed meeting in Richmond of the people interested in Staff Associations? The formation of such groups is not only profitable but useful, as our own library can testify. We hope everyone even remotely interested will attend this meeting.

I would like also to tell those junior members who are interested in exchanging positions that Miss Hazel B. Timmerman, at American Library Association headquarters, is the person to contact, and that Mr. A. S. Gaylord, Jr. is chairman of the Sub-committee

(Continued on page 548)



# Letters from an English Cousin

is one of a series of informal communications from England appearing bi-monthly in the "Wilson Bulletin." Our English correspondent is Frank M. Gardner, F.L.A., of the Kensal Rise Public Library, Kensal Rise, London N.W. 10. English librarians are invited to send material and photographs to Mr. Gardner for this department.

## IX.

Dear Friend:

Any news from England this month is overshadowed by the death of King George V. To English librarians his death came as more than a change of sovereigns, and it is with a sense of personal loss that we mourn his passing. Not that the King had any special interest in libraries, altho he was closely associated with recent library progress. But any activity which he approved was uplifted and dignified, and its members went forward with new enthusiasm. Even in the smaller and more easily avoided duties, such as ceremonial openings of buildings, he never spared himself. His presence at any such an occasion gave it an authority and dignity to be supplied by no one else, and his speeches were always surprisingly full of sound sense and value. His phrase at the opening of the National Central Library, for instance, "open libraries are as essential to health of mind as are open spaces to health of body," probably gave more help to the library movement in England than any other piece of publicity it has ever had.

After my several discussions on the relation between films and library reading, I was interested to see two articles on American journals on the subject, both showing practical appreciation of the importance of linking up books with films. It possibly still appears undignified in England to take advantage of a film to get a classic read that remained on the shelves before, but America has more Jesuitical ideas. The article in the *Wilson Bulletin* with its list of works was especially interesting (if I may add to it, the Wells' film *Things to Come* has just appeared and seems likely to be the film of 1936), and the *Library Journal* article on the Cleveland practice of issuing bookmarks on currently showing films is a practical idea that might well be further adopted. It occurs to me tho, that cooperation with the cinema might lead to the issue of bookmarks for films that are pure trash—there is still only about one film in ten that justifies advertising for reading purposes.

I am sorry that I apparently made a mistake in my recent remarks on the English censorship. I did not know that *Joyless Street* had been released for general showing, and regret

the mistake all the more since I missed the chance of seeing it myself! But the film was effectively censored for over ten years, since it was produced in the early 1920's (see Rotha, *Film Till Now*, p. 37), so that my main point that the English censorship system is not particularly praiseworthy still stands. It is rather strengthened by the remarks of Mr. New on gangster's mistresses, since the main trouble with any censorship is that it allows the chaff to fall thru the sieve while retaining the wheat. Perhaps some day I will form a Liberal League of film goers,—there seems to be a great deal in the objects of the L.L.L. as defined by the editor in the February issue of the *Wilson Bulletin* that might well be taken over entire by a L.L.F. Most especially that bit about members being unpersuaded that sweetness and light are the final criterion of value, which might have been written to apply to Shirley Temple. Which reminds me, I must write to the editor and ask if the L.L.L. is open to overseas members, and if so, I may be No. 1. There seems to be a good opening for an English branch if the action of the great city of Glasgow in banning a novel called *No Mean City* from its libraries is any guide to general feeling. *No Mean City* is about the Glasgow slums, and it has been banned firstly on the grounds that it is untrue, and secondly that it is not the practice to buy novels until three years after publication. The first reason seems peculiar, since if the book is untrue the citizens of Glasgow should be the least affected by it, being in a position to know the truth, while if it is true Glasgow citizens should be encouraged to investigate. The second reason one can understand, tho if the Glasgow Libraries Committee is anxious only to add works of proved merit, why confine their attention to fiction? I wonder if they have yet added Marx's *Capital* or Dunne's *Experiment with Time*, which are both works of so far unsubstantiated theory?

But one of the best openings for an overseas branch of the L.L.L. would be in Australia, according to a report in the current *Library World* of a debate in the South Australian Parliament. Unfortunately there are as yet no librarians or libraries in South Australia, so the formation of a branch would be difficult. The report is of a plea by a member for the

provision of libraries, with interjections by the Prime Minister, such as this. "Mr. Rudall had explained that a town of 240,000 inhabitants in England was using 2,000,000 books annually, and to this Mr. Butler remarked:—"The books may be in the library, but they may not take them out." That, I think, is a remark which even in the annals of librarianship shines out as a pure gem of misapprehension, stupidity, and absurdity.

I am glad to see that the Junior Members Round Table of the A.L.A. is applying itself to the problem of library publicity, and that a beginning is being made at the proper place—how to use the library. In England, library publicity has in recent years been more generally applied to the attraction of new readers, and most of the work done by young librarians has been on this problem. The more immediate problem of what to do with the reader when he is inside has not been touched, probably because it is regarded as solved by the provision of notices and printed guides. It is not. Be the library festooned with notices and papered with guides, the reader enters the library blindfold, and remains blindfold until in the course of time he discovers that (a) the library is arranged on a system, and (b) the staff are not immovable goddesses insensible to an appealing eye. This is shown by the report of a questionnaire recently issued by Croydon Public Library. The questionnaire was presumably answered by the more intelligent readers, and Croydon is one of the best guided libraries in England, so it is the more remarkable to see, in answer to an enquiry for suggestions of books and new services, the suggestions of books already in stock and services long in operation. Any librarian could multiply such examples of ignorance. Only the other day a reader despairingly asked me if there was any list of the books in the library. He was standing at the moment directly in front of a battery of drawers surmounted by the notice, *How to use the catalog*. Even assuming that he had never met a card catalog face to face before (and I suppose it is an awe-inspiring experience) one would have assumed that simple curiosity would have led him to investigate the contents of the mysterious cabinet.

It will be interesting to see the leaflets produced in the competition sponsored as a part of this new publicity program, tho I confess myself doubtful of their value unless something really startling is produced, by someone with a real genius for advertising. In any case, the personal guide is always the best help for the new reader. No reader should ever be told that a book is not in without a following remark that it can be reserved, and no reader should be helped to find a book on the shelves

without a short lecture on how to find a different book next time.

The English equivalent of the Junior Members Round Table, the A.A.L., has too much internal trouble at the moment to be able to bring forward new schemes. The question of amalgamation with the Library Association, which I have mentioned several times in these letters, has come to a head with the rejection by members of the whole of the amalgamation proposals. The L.A. has therefore given notice to abrogate the partial agreement made some years ago, and since all librarians in England have now to belong to the L.A. for examination purposes, the A.A.L. is faced with extinction in a year's time unless some new agreement can be made. The amalgamation proposals did give some satisfaction to the aims of the A.A.L., but it seems that members prefer suicide to imprisonment, however lenient and well-intended the imprisonment may be.

I don't know whether you in America ever have the opportunity of seeing the English periodical the *Architectural Review*, but if you can beg, borrow or buy a copy of the March issue, do so, for it contains plans, pictures, and a description of the new Viipuri Library in Finland, the first library I think to be built on entirely modern lines, or, as the *Architectural Review* puts it, as an uncompromising example of *Kulturbolschevismus*. Its main feature for the librarian is its solution of the supervision problem, by the arrangement of the library on two levels, so that the staff from one enclosure can survey the whole of the reference library, lending library, and reading room without any arrangement of glass screens or telescopes. The library is also designed as a general cultural centre, and has a large lecture room with a new solution of acoustical problems. It is comparatively simple to design a room for acoustics where the sound comes always from one point, but more difficult to design a debating chamber with equal all-round audibility, so that a speaker may rise from any part of the room and address any other part. The problem is here solved by a curious undulating roof which has a charmingly baroque aspect. Another feature is an entirely shadowless and non-reflecting natural lighting thru small prismatic circular glass skylights. From the air the roof of the building looks like an enormous draught-board set out for play.

I have intended to mention for some time that if you at any time wish to discuss anything I say, or want information on English libraries, I should always be pleased to reply, to the best of my ability. Letters can be sent either direct to me or thru the editor.

FRANK M. GARDNER



# The Roving Eye



## The So-Called "Conservative" Posit on

"I HAVE hesitated long about renewing my subscription to the *Wilson Bulletin*," writes a librarian from the west coast.

"I do not care for or approve of the radical articles and the advocacy of some of the principles set forth in the *Bulletin*. I do not believe a public library is the place to disseminate knowledge advocating such doctrines nor do I think it necessary. As a recent article stated, people who really wish to hate and destruction (*sic*) can and will get plenty of such material. Conservative articles of information may be necessary but radicals always read with a biased mind, hence the harm."

I earnestly hope that this librarian will continue to read the *Wilson Bulletin*, if only to learn that her so-called "conservative" position is a dangerously radical departure from the true spirit and classic heritage of American librarianship. It happens that I have just been reading an extremely thoughtful paper by William H. Carlson, Librarian of Vanderbilt University, in the March 1 issue of the *Library Journal*, and I hasten to recommend it to Miss —. Particularly do I beg her to read the following sentences:

The Democratic ideal, of which we in America have been and are proud, is that the library is to gather, for the free use of all comers and for all purposes, material on both sides of controversial issues, political or otherwise. While this liberal ideal has probably not been fully achieved by very many libraries, particularly in times of great national stress, it has, in America, never been questioned in principle.

If we contrast this statement with my correspondent's unqualified assertion, "I do not believe a public library is the place to disseminate knowledge advocating such doctrines" (which is tantamount to saying, "I do not believe a public library is the place to disseminate knowledge") it becomes apparent that Mr. Carlson is unduly optimistic in declaring that the principle of American librarianship, the democratic ideal, has "never" been questioned. It has been questioned, in the letter I have quoted, altho I do not doubt that the writer was actuated by the most sincere and patriotic of motives. Sincerity and patriotism, unfortunately, are no vaccines against the error of the intelligence, the inflammation of the will, the morbid growth of dogma. (Hitler is a sincere patriot.) If there are librarians

who believe that the time has come to abandon the American ideal of librarianship in order to compel public information and opinion to run in safe and "proper" channels, I invite them openly to submit their reasons in these pages for the consideration of their colleagues. A free press can do no less, and no more.

I cannot help adding, with some measure of pride, that the *Wilson Bulletin* in its editorial policy attempts, as best it can, within the limitations of space and human fallibility, to adhere to the noble democratic tradition, so often honored in theory, so often betrayed in practice. If we are accused of advocating and defending truly liberal principles of librarianship, of providing an opportunity for every librarian to be heard on subjects of professional interest in free, open, and uncensored discussion, we accept the accusation and hope that we have earned it. I believe—indeed, I know—that we have the support and confidence of the largest group of librarians to subscribe to any periodical in any language. That, it seems to me, is something to be proud of too.

## The Beginning of Wisdom

I think it was F.P.A. who said that the beginning of wisdom on the part of a columnist was the disillusioning discovery that all the boosts in the mail came to his desk, while all the knocks went to The Boss. A thousand letters of praise and good cheer—oh well, if you insist, we'll settle for a hundred—blow helter-skelter away before the harsh, cold, and wintry wind that pours out of the opened flap of the envelope in the front office. A compliment is only a whisper, but a rebuke is trumpet-tongued and father of echoes. Nevertheless, since one of the characteristics of living organisms is their capacity to irritate others, and since a periodical that offends nobody is an extinct one, I hope that we shall continue to be sufficiently vital to provoke some of you some of the time. Please let us know when we do, or else I shall begin to worry that we are languishing, issue by issue, into the torpor of professional innocuousness.

## Call to Action

Dear S. J. K.:

From the tone of your "Personal Note" in the March installment of the *Roving Eye*, it would appear that you may be having qualms as to the degree to which your readers

are in sympathy with your courageous battle for the retention of civil liberties. Thus, as one who is in complete sympathy with your point of view I hasten to assure you that I for one am far from being bored by your relentless attacks against the inertia of librarians in matters of this sort.

I have been much interested in the various lists of "required readings" submitted by the several members of the L.L.L., and must say that with all this I most thoroly agree. Nevertheless, I feel that we should transcend such passive matters and engage ourselves in a more militant program.

If I may be pardoned the reference to myself as a worthy example I might add that during the past few days, having recently come under the personal influence of Roger Baldwin, I have been busily engaged in the circulation among my colleagues and friends of a petition in opposition to the Kramer federal sedition bill, H.R. 6427, which, as you say, is aimed directly at civil liberties. I am so thoroly convinced that activities of this sort should engage the attention of all librarians truly interested in the preservation of freedom of the press that I shall be glad to cooperate in any way that I can in aiding others wishing to circulate similar petitions, and shall be quite glad to send to any who may be interested copies of a petition similar to the one which was used here.

Also, Librarians would do well to support the activities of the American Civil Liberties Union, 31 Union Square West, New York City. I can think of no better way to spend a dollar, and would suggest that we urge every member of the Triple L, to which we require no payment of dues, to put this small sum into the coffers of the Union. It will be money well spent, and will go far toward the preservation of that spirit of freedom that founded these United States.

Finally, if Librarians are too timid to attempt the arduous tasks of circulating a petition, or are too impecunious to give a dollar to the A.C.L.U., at least they can write to the Representative from their particular congressional districts urging that H.R. 6427 be overwhelmingly defeated. Letters need not be long, they need only be strong and to the point.

Incidentally, you might be interested to know that much to my surprise I encountered more opposition to my petition in members of the library profession than among any other group. Two "female" librarians stoutly resisted my plea; and one, whom I had hitherto considered to be reasonably intelligent, went so far as to say in all seriousness that she favored the bill because she believed it to be directed primarily against Communists, and that it was her conviction that

all Communism should be suppressed, and all Communists who are aliens immediately deported. She added, "We don't want to happen here what happened in Russia." I was quite interested in this sidelight on history, for I had not known before that the revolution against the Czarist régime was the result of excessive freedom of expression.

Yours for rapid growth of the Triple L and the A.C.L.U.

J. H. SHERA, Y.P.  
*Scripps Foundation*  
*Miami University*  
*Oxford, Ohio*

[I heartily second all that Mr. Shera (Young Petrel) says, and urge librarians to write to their congressmen in protest against the proposed Kramer sedition bill, which, as I explained last month, would permit us to enjoy five years in jail and pay \$5000 in fine money for writing, publishing, or displaying radical literature or even for conversing "seditionally." This bill is not a joke, but a serious possibility. Mr. Shera's offer to supply copies of a petition for circulation will, I hope, stimulate a good number of you to draw up group protests. Immediate action is imperative. Any librarian who informs me that he or she has protested against the Kramer bill will automatically be accepted into the fold of the Liberal League for Librarians.—S.J.K.]

### A Shakespeare Garden

The staff publication of the Los Angeles Public Library recently reported the existence of a Shakespeare Garden at the Felipe de Neve branch. It was founded three years ago by the local "Lovers of Shakespeare." A replica of the Farrington Bust of the Bard presides over the garden, which contains every kind of flower mentioned by the poet in his works, from the "Daffodils that come before the swallow dares" and "Daisies pied and violets blue" to "Morning roses newly washed with dew." Other flowers to be found here are columbine and crocus, harebell and honey-suckle, lavender and larkspur, mistletoe and myrtle, rosemary and rue.

We learn with sorrow that the Garden of late has shown signs of deterioration, "because the Lovers of Shakespeare, like everyone else, have felt the pinch of poverty and have been unable to purchase the fertilizer necessary to even the flowers of Shakespeare."

Now that our thoughts turn vernal and horticultural, we hope that Felipe de Neve (the name itself is poetry on the tongue) will send us a picture of the Garden. We shall not mind a few weeds, because, after all, Shakespeare, like nature herself, included them too.

S.J.K.

# THE CROW'S NEST

Guy R. Lyle, Editor

[The purpose of this department of survey and comment, devoted to current library publicity, is to acquaint librarians with the efforts and experiments of their colleagues in popularizing library services, and by criticism and suggestion to help raise the level of effectiveness of this increasingly important phase of library activity. Librarians are invited to send articles, copies of publicity material, descriptions and photographs of exhibits, booklists, annual reports, etc. to the editor of "The Crow's Nest," Guy R. Lyle, Library School, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois.]



WE are not exactly in this scribbling business for our health, but so much front page stuff has come in during the past week that we wired permission from Director Kunitz to run an extra issue of this column. Our ambition is to rush the news to the members of this great family journal while it is still news.

## Annual Reports

The librarian's annual report is commonly referred to as the "Annual Report of the Librarian to the Board of Trustees. . ." Actually it is a report to the public—to the local taxpayers and library patrons. How many librarians are aware of this? Too few, if we may judge by the reports on hand. We have just been reading a twenty-six page recital of routine library processes—called an *Annual Report*—presented mechanically with all the time-honored phrases, the obvious and conventional captions (*Registered Users of the Library, Accessions for the Year*) which will kindle no response from either high or low-brow. It is too technical, too solemn. It belongs with the archives.

We do not question for a minute the difficulty of presenting the essential facts about library finances, growth, and achievement in a vital, readable report which will compel attention and put across its publicity message. Even the briefest of annual reports must take cognizance of a large and diverse group of items and an equally large and varied audience. The items may be summarized in general as (1) significant achievements of the year as they relate to increased library service, (2) financial position of the library, and (3) next steps in the library's program of service. The audience cannot be classified so easily but it ranges all the way from dairyman to yodler. Obviously you cannot concoct a 'burning message' of such multifarious elements for all

citizenry within the covers of a single report. This being so, it would seem more logical to publish the annual report in a series of bulletins. The financial report for the trustees and city officials could be presented with all its funeral trappings under the dignified title of *Business Management*. Librarians should be able to do this sort of thing to the Queen's taste. The other bulletins, written in more popular vein for the general public, should play up the book and reference services.

## Newspaper Hunches

A better plan is to prepare a full typewritten report of library activities for official purposes and to depend on the cooperation of the newspapers to reach the wider audience. This, roughly speaking, is the method used by the Evanston (Illinois) Public Library. It is indicative of the close and cordial relations which exist between press and library that both Evanston newspapers were willing to contribute a generous amount of space for the Library report. Copies of the newspaper stories are reproduced here from reprints. A flattering editorial, which we have not space to reprint, appeared simultaneously with the full story in the *Evanston Review*.

If you examine the original reprints closely we are quite sure that you will agree with us that the *Review* copy takes the prize. Except for the lead, which newspaper editors always reserve for themselves anyway, the *Review* article was written in its entirety by the library staff. The *News-Index* article, on the other hand, was written by a newspaper reporter from interviews with the staff. His staff is mellow and sweet-smelling beyond description, but it has no carry-over value. It lacks purposeful organization. By shifting aimlessly from one point to another the reporter fails to leave any definite impression of

*More Than Half of City Uses Public Library*  
Evanston Alone in Showing Increase Over Year Before

**Total of 756,028 Volumes Is  
Read in 1935; Circulation of  
Children's Books Advances**

**Total of 756,028 Volumes Is  
Read in 1935; Circulation of  
Children's Books Advances**

Evanstonians borrowed 756,028 books from the Public library, branches and school libraries during 1935, making a circulation in this city of nearly twelve books per capita. About half of these were lent to and half to children according report cited

The library board last Friday by Librarian Ida Paye Wright. The library, more than any other institution, is Evanston's community center, according to this report. More than half of the citizens hold library cards. In examining the history of the city no story can ignore the truly vital role played in the daily lives of thousands of Evanstonians by the public library. A summary of the annual report follows.

Evanson was unique among 33 cities queried by the American Library association in 1935 because it showed an increase in circulation over the year before—while other cities showed losses. It is significant that the gain was entirely in children's books—an almost unprecedented increase of more than 10 percent, 39,533 volumes. It is further significant that although there was a loss

of 21,110 volumes in adult reading, that loss was entirely in fiction books. Despite the slight loss in adult circulation from the previous year, it is a fact that the total number of books read was more than would have been read had the normal increase in reading followed the expected curve plotted before the depression sent thousands of additional borrowers into the library.

By the middle of 1933, adult circulation already had reached 400,000, or what "normally" would have been expected in 1938. Two years of the depression thus advanced the adult circulation as much as eight years of prosperity would have been expected to.

### Taking the Literary Pulse

As in 1934, books classified as literature, fine arts and biography, led the trade as the most popular non-fiction reading of adults, followed closely by sociology, travel and useful arts—an indication no doubt of the awareness of Evanston citizens of the need for a continuing education, of their desire to fit themselves for a job, and of their interest in the problems of government and world affairs.

Also popular were books on con-

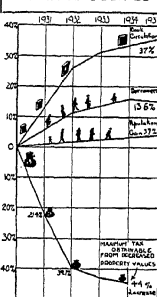
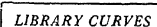
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**Children Make Record**  
The unusual record of 381,600 books borrowed by the children of Evanston

The Evanson Review (at left) is an advertising weekly of superior merit reaching 18,500 readers. Headlines and subheads are well written and significant. Block captions used for main heads in story. Curve graph is simple and clear. Full story and editorial reprinted on one page, front and back, costing library two cents for each reprint.

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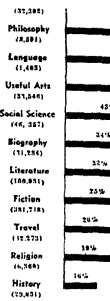
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The above graph shows the percentage of increase in the population of fixations, in the number of library card holders, and in the number of books borrowed for home use from 1910 to 1925. It also shows the decrease in the amount of support which the library can receive from taxation. This decrease is due to lowered property valuations and, since the rate of tax levy for public library operation and maintenance according to state law shall be "not in excess of 1.2 mills on the dollar of assessed valuation," the operating expenses must correspondingly be

## Uses of Public Library Rise Sharply During Years Between 1930 and 1935

### *Increase in Circulation—1930-1935*



	1926	1935
Population	67,071	85,000
Tax Rate	.0017	.0015
No. of Newspapers	1	1
Books Returned	4,181	5,450
Books Received		3,049
Academic Librarians		
total	18,870	20,000
Journals	10,763	10,943
Periodicals	3,173	9,057
Per Capita Population	4.9%	55.8%
Volume Added		
total	4,018	9,940
Journals	4,018	4,975
Periodicals		4,965
total	8,036	9,940
Books Worth Out or Lost		
total	3,191	3,365
Journals	3,191	3,410
Periodicals	3,365	3,612
Total No. Volume		
Journals	97,719	116,812
Periodicals	27,000	116,812
total	124,719	233,624
Circulation per Capita	1.85	2.68
Circulation per Decade	17.0	24.0
Circulation per Person	57	51
Journals	1,454	1,872
Visitors to Exhibit Center		
Museum in Ark Center	6,555	8,745

The Evanson Daily Index (at right) reaches about 4,000 readers. The bar graph, altho effective, is misplaced. The illustration, meant for the opening page appears on the back of this reprint. It ties in with the text and connects the banner line with the lead. Rather than reset, the paper donated 300 reprint copies to the library.

**Books, 756,038 . . .**  
 "What we have to contend with constantly in the minds of the citizens," declared Miss Ida Faye Whigwanson librarian in announcing her annual report, "is that this building is the library."

The slightly startled reporter, dismayed at having another illusion smashed down into the dust (for that had always been one of his own beliefs), parried a short while, then set out to find for himself just what Evanston Public library is and what it did in the year 1935.

One of the first facts he ran slant bang into was the discovery that although Evanston library last year lent out 756,038 books (nearly 12 for each resident of the city), the Main building, perched with its Grecian nose pointed out on Orrington avenue, had less than half of the

**Pleased . . .**  
Pleased are Evanston's librarians with the unprecedented increase of more than 10 per cent in children's book borrowing, not dismayed are they with a loss of 21,116 volumes in adult reading.

"For," declared Miss Wright, pointing to her statistics for the past five years, "adult circulation is still above the 'normal' curve plotted before the depression began. By the middle of 1933, adult circulation had reached what might have been expected 'normal' in 1928."

Increase in children's circulation bespeaks a continuing community interest in the library. Adult readers have less time to continue their library forays because:

have shown losses. In Evanston, the net gain was 18,423 volumes. The children saved the day.

Conservative estimates indicate that between 400,000 and 500,000 books were used within the library in addition to those regularly taken out. The reading and reference rooms were in constant use. The main desk and reference departments were besieged with thousands of requests for information.

Questions were as varied as a radio writer asking for technical details on the script of a Moorish play and a small child asking only to see a picture book.

**Significant . . .**  
Significant, Miss Wright believes, is the fact that although adult circulation did lose in 1935, the book was entirely in books of fiction in non-fiction.

hobbies (People are, to creative things), (2) the radio, (3) the 'a World's Fair, (4) ex cation teachers.

Other significant g five years were those science, 135 per cent; per cent; useful arts, social science, 43 per o per cent.

**Glass Eyes . . .**  
 "But, mother, did anybody put in a 2 branch librarian over ask her harassed one  
 In another instance as attempting to s companion with the  
 "You make me tired. myself I suffer my pain  
 These two little anecd manner in which they heard typify the relation the branch librarian and—the librarian is practicing the family.

Mrs. Gertrude Brz Haven branch for the estimates she knows by eighth of the persons books. Last year 81,749 borrowed from the Hav branch.

South branch library books, Oakton school an 284 volumes. The tot from the school libraries at 212,763 volumes.

**Personalized . . .** Personalized service is the success of the branch. Branches last year were made copies of books most such as "The Seven Pillars of Wisdom," and "North to the Sun." The branch librarians know the clients, their needs and their interests. I make more successful requests for books.

To a similar close relationship between librarian and patron is the success of the school library.

**36 Per Child . . .**  
To six full time school children, Miss Gertrude Moore, supervisor of the Main library children's department who also supervises the city libraries, the circulation of books was due.

Counting all books in the city, the children are given by the school library, Main library, 381,600 books per child. This is an average of 36 books per child.

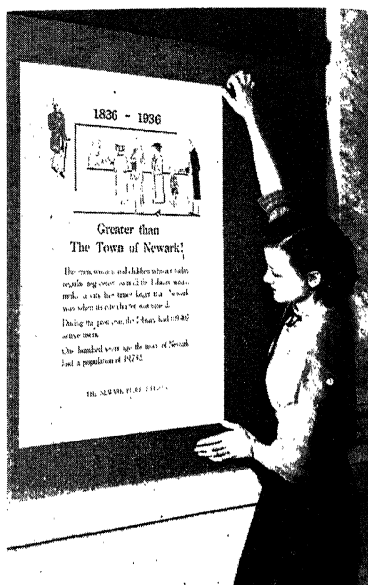
the Library's needs and achievements. This failure is accentuated in the original newspaper story which is split and published in two separate issues. You can't kick about this, of course. Right or wrong, you get the space on the editor's terms.

The *Review* copy, on the contrary, shows a sympathetic understanding of what the Library is trying to do and places events in their proper background. The ideas are so well organized that they focus attention on one central theme—the library as a community vitalizer. When you lay it down after reading it, you feel that the Evanston Public Library is an important part of this bright world—a very important part of Evanston, at least. Repetition of the community idea, in the work with children and the schools, in the youth movement, in exhibits, and in the so-called extra-curricula activities is sufficiently enriched by variety of presentation, compelling headings and sub-headings, to avoid monotony. A simple curve serves to emphasize the contrast between increasing demands on the one hand and decreasing appropriations on the other.

To conclude from this comparison that library staff reporters can out-perform more experienced and more highly skilled newspaper reporters would be naive and indecently presumptuous. Much that is written by librarians is dead as mutton; much more, written by newspapermen, is mere claptrap. This is the dilemma. So what? Evanston's distinguished librarian, Ida F. Wright, has a constructive suggestion for all library problems and we borrow from her:

"What I think we need are formulae to suggest to the Staff, which will open up new avenues for their judgments of what they are doing and make them more alert to the value of the service rendered. Publicity for support, presupposes an ability to analyze what support produces and what more support should produce. This, as I see it, can only be done by those who work with the public and who know what the library does and does not provide."

Ability to interpret library services to the public! This indeed is a matter of first consideration. Newspaper editors provide trained reporters to cover many fields—art, politics, and music, but there are no special library reporters. Understanding and interpreting the library job in all its varied branches is likely to be a function of the staff for some time to come. Contacts should not be limited to smiles and dirty looks across the loan desk. Make the acquaintance of newspaper editors and others, and see them as often as possible. Find out what they want. Be resourceful and less stereotyped in telling about the library's work. What the librarian or staff member does in a typical day's work suggests plenty of



#### POSTER TELLS OF LIBRARY WORK

"The men, women, and children who are today regular, registered users of the Library would make a city five times larger than Newark was when its city charter was signed."

interest and action if properly interpreted. Read *Low—Public Library Administration* p. 4-6 and "A Day's Work in the Racine Public Library," *Library Journal*, 1934 and then keep a record of your own doings. If these do not suggest some new ideas for the annual report and library newspaper stories, we give up.

#### Striking Photo Hunch

How the Newark Public Library popularizes its *Annual Report* is illustrated in the accompanying photograph of Miss Marie A. Mount, a Library assistant, hanging up the first of a series of posters on the work of the Library. These posters, six in number, were designed by the Library staff and printed on the Library press. Copies of all six were exhibited in the main corridor of the Library simultaneously with the publication of the *Annual Report* in the local papers. Mr. Newcomb of the Newark Public Library writes:

"Their purpose is to dramatize the outstanding features of the *Annual Report* with the idea of arousing public sympathy when the Library's budget is up for discussion by the City Commission. This is the third year that we have had such posters. After being shown at the Library, they will be sent around the city by the Newark Educational Council."

(Continued on last page)

# The Foreign Scene

By Arthur Berthold

SO far this department has concerned itself for the most part only with library publications of the older countries. In the present issue I intend to deal with a practically unknown publication from a country hardly ever mentioned in the newspapers.

The country is Latvia, and the magazine is *Grahmatnieks* (The Bookman). It is not a purely library publication. It is published by Valters un Rapa of Riga, the publishing house which is responsible for about one-half of Latvia's 1,360 yearly publications. The *Grahmatnieks* is more of the type of the *Publishers' Weekly*, but the announcements of new publications, instead of being given in systematic order, appear as parts of advertisements by the various publishers. On the other hand, all the more important recent books are included in subject groups and their contents described in a running commentary. Each issue, furthermore, contains a leading article of several pages, notes about foreign authors and publications, activities of booksellers, and a department called *Books in the Ink Bottle*—a description of the works in progress and manuscripts in publishers' hands.

Of interest is a note that in the neighboring republic, Lithuania, the sizes of books are now prescribed by law. The permitted sizes are: 24 x 16 cm., 18.75 x 12 cm., 16.5 x 11 cm. These are sizes for magazines, dictionaries, reproductions of art and books of a religious nature. School books, without exception, must be 22.5 x 14.75 cm.

The leading article in the December 1935 issue has to do with the "Nature of the Good Book." It is written by Dr. theol. Albert Freijs. It is particularly pertinent at this time, both because of the late discussion about censorship in this country and because the author is evidently an exponent of what has been often—perhaps in this case incorrectly—called the fascist view.

A good book, according to Dr. Freijs, is one which treats of its subject definitely, that is, it must be written so that the reader can tell what the author is driving at. It must be clear, forceful and with a definite objective. A second attribute of the good book is that it treats of its subject thoroly. This would rule out, I suppose, most of the slipshod popularizations where the aim appears to be a minimum of fact with the maximum of unessential examples and human interest data. The third attribute is considerably more elusive. The good book must exercise a good and healthy influence. The intention must be

good, and in order that all this may be attained in the best possible manner, the fourth attribute of the good book is that it should be technically perfect. The language should be pure and compact, the text well-arranged and proportional, and the mechanical make-up of the book should be both pleasant to the eye and adapted to its destined purpose.

All that has preceded sounds like common sense, and it is hard for me to find any objection. But there is a second set of desiderata which is, perhaps, not quite so harmless. The good book can exert a wholesome influence only when it is good in the ethical sense, true according to logic, beautiful with regard to the laws of esthetics, and holy, which the author identifies with religion. If ethics, logic, esthetics and religion were exact sciences with unchanging values, the matter of deciding whether a book was good or bad would be solved splendidly. But ethics, according to Kropotkin, teaches the good only in the interest of those in power; logic is transformed by the Marxists into dialectics; esthetics is the product of a variety of schools; and finally there are religions and religions. The good Doctor undoubtedly does not think so. For him, as a Christian and perhaps also a fascist, all these questions would be as clear as—ink.

The summary of the article is considerably less objectionable. In conclusion we are informed that the good book derives its intrinsic worth from its being inspired and of high seriousness, saturated with cultural values, concerned with problems of timeless interest, and finally possessing a definite educational value. The implication seems to be that all the other works which are not inspired, or cultural, or timeless, or educational are bad books. The degree of good or bad is not discussed. Likewise, no mention is made of who is to decide these questions. If the author has attempted merely to set forth the laws and principles which are observed as operating in the ultimate selection of books that endure and such as are only for the day, he is not far wrong. The qualities he mentions are the ones which usually make a classic a classic. But if, as seems probable, he has outlined these principles with a view of explaining or justifying an already existing or contemplated censorship, he is defining not a good book, but a good fascist book. Principles and laws in themselves are neither good nor bad; they become either the one or the other according to who applies them.



# THE SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION\*

By Louisa A. Ward

**L**ISTENING to a conversation between experts is always of interest, especially when the listener has some knowledge of the experts' field. So we school librarians, the guinea pigs of this study, hold ourselves fortunate in hearing this conversation (held half across a continent) between Miss Fargo, author of the book *Preparation for School Library Work*, and Miss Howe, who, among other qualifications for reviewing such a book, holds her masters degree in Education from Harvard, was for three years executive of the Board of Education for Librarianship of the A.L.A., and is now director of the school of Librarianship at the University of Denver.

PREPARATION FOR SCHOOL LIBRARY WORK, BY LUCILE F. FARGO. N.Y., Columbia University Press. 190p \$3 '36

This is the third volume of Columbia University Studies in Library Service prepared under the editorship of Charles C. Williamson.

Miss Fargo, Research Associate in the School of Library Service of Columbia University, sets out to answer the question "What is the preparation essential for school library work?" In her discussion of Positions open to school librarians, Chapter II, she draws a number of conclusions which touch upon preparation for other than the school library field. To quote:

In the first place, it is important that prospective librarians of public libraries should have considerable familiarity with the nature of school service. This is both because the service is apt to be required and because when given it should be in line with school needs and not merely an extraneous offering. Librarians are often aware of a well-defined antagonism on the part of school administrators to public library management of school service. . . There is a deep, and in some cases well-grounded, conviction that the librarian versed primarily in the ways of the general public and in service therefor fails in sympathetic appreciation of the integrated library program of the school. . . .

Chapter IV, School library standards and certification, presents a table of the minimum

requirements for state certification of high school librarians as of May 1934. This listing of requirements, altho no longer exact since the state planning committees have been active in 1934 and 1935, is helpful in viewing the national field. Miss Fargo in summing up the chapter says:

From such chaotic certification conditions no conclusions of value can be drawn with reference to education for librarianship except, perhaps, that it behooves the prospective secondary school librarian to acquire approximately fifteen semester-hour credits in educational fields if he wishes to market himself professionally. . . The further deduction may be drawn that library schools preparing candidates for secondary school positions would do well to look for education credits when examining the credentials of entering students. . . Librarians should be on the alert to follow and to participate in the current movements in the educational field directed toward . . . better-thought-out plans for the certification of school librarians. . .

The facts obtained from a questionnaire sent out concerning Professional migration discussed in Chapter V were so conflicting that Miss Fargo ventures only the generalizations:

. . . that while the high school librarian tends to remain a high school librarian, he, more than others, is apt to extend his duties into other fields—upward into the junior college, and downward into the junior high school and the grades. . . . From all points of view the high school librarian is in a strategic position the preparation for which is narrowly limited only at the expense of efficiency and leadership.

Miss Fargo from her study of Professional backgrounds in Chapter VI suggests:

. . . that professional preparation for school librarianship must (1) take account of . . . previous teaching experience or the lack of it, experience in the public library field, backgrounds provided by the teachers' college, and the needs of the young liberal arts college graduate; (2) require some preliminary education courses for admission; and (3) find opportunities to tie the student's work to pre-professional experience or training or to both.

\* A monthly department about school libraries prepared for the *Wilson Bulletin* under the auspices of the School Libraries Section, American Library Association. All school librarians, whether or not they are members of the Section, are invited to utilize this department for the discussion of their problems. Notices should be sent to Louisa A. Ward, South High Library, Denver, Colorado.

In regard to specialization discussed in both Chapters VIII and IX, Miss Fargo deplors its dearth, and cites the fact that in 1934 the twenty-six library schools granted the bachelor's degree to 786 students and the master's degree to only 44 students, and assumes that in the latter number only "an infinitesimal number of school librarians" were included. The A.L.A. figures for the library school output<sup>1</sup> for 1935, probably published too late for use by Miss Fargo, show that Columbia University School of Library Service alone expected to grant the master's degree to 43 students and the expectation for all schools was 78 advanced degrees, including five candidates for the Ph.D., with 851 receiving the bachelor's degree, and an unstated number of school librarians. However, the list of 114 graduate theses accepted by library schools in the United States from July 1933 to June 1935, presented by Douglas Waples,<sup>2</sup> shows that nineteen topics concerning children's literature and problems of the adolescent and of school and teachers' college libraries were included. Comparison with earlier theses topics similarly reported<sup>3,4</sup> shows approximately the same number per year from 1928-1935 for the school and teachers' college library problems, but in 1933-35 a larger number dealing with children's literature. This subject naturally is of interest to the librarian in the platoon, elementary, and secondary school as well as to the one in the public library, according to Miss Fargo's theory and to practice.

These figures and lists leave out of the account the graduate schools of universities which also produce theses on library or allied topics written by graduates of library schools or other departments. Using the School of Librarianship of the University of Denver as an example, it is found that six of its graduates have obtained the master's degree since 1932. Only one of these degrees has been in library science, three being in education, and one each in literature and speech, all the minors being in librarianship. Eleven other graduates are in process of earning the higher degree, four majoring in education, three in literature, two in history, and one each in commerce and science. Therefore, if the experience at this library school is typical, the outlook probably is more hopeful in regard to specialization in education and other subjects than the facts shown by Miss Fargo would lead one to suppose.

Miss Fargo's further discussion of the obvious limitations of specialization in the first

year curriculum will find many protagonists but also many antagonists. That an appreciable amount can be attained without offering special courses has been proved where tried.<sup>5</sup> The finding of "opportunities to tie the student's work to pre-professional experience or training or to both," a point raised earlier by Miss Fargo, also can be carried out, thus building on a pre-professional interest if not on the academic major, giving guidance in the chosen direction and practical experience usually thru field work. It is illuminating to see that Miss Fargo in this chapter states that altho "field work" in library schools corresponds to practice teaching in the education of teachers, "it is noticeable that these practices are on the decline and increasingly questioned." These two statements are not clearly delimited, and to the writer seem opposed to each other where there should be agreement. The time element mentioned as a difference in procedure between librarian- and teacher-training can be made equivalent without hampering the regular curriculum, it has been found where attempted.

Further specialization can be gained by enlisting as individual counselors, in addition to the library school faculty, those experts or authorities in subject fields from among the university faculty or local librarians. Thus individual problems, projects, and conferences are added means to the development in the student of a specialized subject knowledge in a library-school curriculum planned to cover many types of library endeavor in their interplay of interests and techniques.

The final chapter concerns Library education for teacher-librarians, but since the author is engaged in a further study of the points raised here the chapter may be considered as a progress report and the later findings awaited before comments are made.

The book by Miss Fargo is especially helpful in the preliminary chapters where problems dealing with the placement, functions, standards and certification, and advancement in the profession of school librarians are discussed. The later chapters will be welcomed by those library schools whose policies and practices are in line with the author's views, but will be criticized by those whose practices are so firmly established that changes in curriculum are accomplished with great difficulty. This is a forward-looking volume and should be read with care and an open mind by all engaged in any form of education for librarianship.

HARRIET E. HOWE

<sup>1</sup> American Library Association Board of Education for Librarianship. "Eleventh Annual Report." American Library Association Bulletin, 29:315, 1935.

<sup>2</sup> Douglas Waples, "Graduate theses accepted by library schools in the United States from July 1933, to June 1935." *Library quarterly*, 6:74-83, 1936.

<sup>3</sup> Douglas Waples, "Graduate theses accepted by library schools in the United States from June 1928, to June 1932." *Library quarterly*, 3:267-91, 1933.

<sup>4</sup> Douglas Waples, "Graduate theses accepted by library schools in the United States during the academic year 1932-33." *Library quarterly*, 4:639-41, 1934.

<sup>5</sup> Harriet E. Howe, "The library school and the special librarian." *Special libraries*, 24:107-11, 1933.

# A. L. A. NOTES

By Esther W. Warren

## President Roosevelt Promises Message

A MESSAGE from President Roosevelt to the Friends of the Library luncheon at the Richmond conference has been promised. It will be read by John Stewart Bryan, president of William and Mary College and president also of the Richmond Public Library Board, as part of the coast-to-coast broadcast from the luncheon over the NBC network. Arrangements are being completed also for a broadcast from Washington to the meeting.

## Federal Library Agency

The Department of the Interior Appropriations bill "HR 10630" passed the Senate on March 2 with an amendment introduced by Senator Barkley of Kentucky, making provision for an appropriation of \$40,000 for a federal library agency in the Office of Education. The bill at this writing (March 12) is in the hands of a joint conference committee consisting of the following: from the Senate, Senator Hayden of Arizona, chairman; Senator McKellar of Tennessee; Senator Thomas of Oklahoma; Senator Norbeck of South Dakota; and Senator Steiwer of Oregon; from the House, Representative Taylor of Colorado, chairman; Representative Jacobsen of Iowa; Representative Johnson of Oklahoma; Representative Lambertson of Kansas; and Representative Wigglesworth of Massachusetts. It is expected that the conference committee will have met and rendered its report by March 20.

## Adult Education and Libraries

A two-day meeting to discuss informally the broad aspects of adult education and libraries—what has been accomplished, what has not been accomplished, what are the challenges of the future, and how should they be met—was held at Princeton, New Jersey, March 9 and 10, under the auspices of the A.L.A. Board on the Library and Adult Education.

In addition to the five members of the board, the meeting was participated in by several other librarians and adult educators representing both small and large libraries, state extension work, general and rural adult

education, and by President Louis R. Wilson and President-in-Nomination Malcolm G. Wyer.

## Public Libraries in the "Survey"

What public libraries are already doing, with scant funds and overworked staffs, and, more especially, needed services they could undertake if adequate financial support were forthcoming, Lyman Bryson will discuss in his illustrated article in an early issue of the *Survey*.

The A. L. A. has arranged to have reprints, to be available from headquarters, believing that what Mr. Bryson has to say will be a powerful aid to librarians and library trustees trying to secure more understanding public support from their communities.

## Advisory Service at N.E.A.

At the recent St. Louis meeting of the Department of Superintendence of the N.E.A., administrators and teachers came to the A. L. A. booth for suggestions and advice about school libraries in their own areas. This advisory service was given by a group of state school library supervisors this year, under the plans made by the Joint Committee of the N. E. A. and the A. L. A.

## An Agency of Leadership

The Educational Policies Commission announces that Carl H. Milam, secretary of the American Library Association, has been appointed as consultant ex-officio for the commission.

The appointment of a group of educational leaders as consultants is an important item in the program of the commission which was appointed for a five-year term of office in December, 1935, by the joint action of the National Education Association and the Department of Superintendence to develop long-range planning for the improvement of American schools.

The policies of the commission will be developed from its contacts with educational and civic leaders serving as consultants in all parts of the country. It is an agency of leadership

and service rather than an agency for bringing about standardization and uniformity.

The consultants will receive materials prepared by the Educational Policies Commission and will be asked to assist the commission by expressing opinions on issues submitted, by raising additional issues to be considered by the commission, by disseminating its recommendations, and by reporting the conclusions of important committees of which the consultants are members.

### "Another Language"

The first A. L. A. leaflet to be translated into French is a new membership tool prepared by the Canadian Subcommittee of the Special Membership Committee. It is called *Raisons pour lesquelles "l'American Library Association" doit pouvoir compter sur l'appui des Canadiens*. The translation was made by Hélène Grenier, of Montreal, president of the Quebec Library Association, and a member of this committee.

### New A. L. A. Friends

Congressman Kent E. Keller, chairman of the Committee on the Library of the United States House of Representatives, is a new A. L. A. friend who recently enrolled as a Contributing Member in response to an invitation from Dr. John H. Finley, honorary chairman of the Special Membership Committee. Congressman Keller, who is from Illinois, was formerly a teacher and is much interested in libraries.

Another new friend is Mrs. Verner Z. Reed, of Denver, Colorado, donor of the beautiful Mary Reed Library to the University of Denver. She has joined as a Sustaining Member.

### Reading in the Home

John Adams Lowe of the Rochester Public Library is to write the chapter on reading for the book on "Our Home" which the National Congress of Parents and Teachers plans to publish in May. Mr. Lowe's contribution, along with chapters on music, art, and beauty, will make up part three, "The Home as a Cultural Center." In size and format the new volume will be a companion to *Our public schools*.

### Negro Teacher-Librarians

A discussion of training for Negro teacher-librarians, to meet the standards of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, took place in St. Louis the latter part of February. The discussion group,

which assembled at the invitation of the A. L. A. Board of Education for Librarianship, included representatives of the General Education Board, the Rosenwald Fund, the Southern Association, the United States Office of Education, the A. L. A., state school library supervisors, and state agents of Negro education.

Anita M. Hostetter, secretary of the board, and Fred McCuiston, executive agent of the Committee on Negro Schools of the Southern Association, were appointed co-chairmen of a committee which met the following day to prepare recommendations on ways and means for such instruction to be inaugurated in several selected institutions in the summer of 1936.

### If You Need Separates

If you need separates of the alphabetical list of "Sources for Reproductions of Works of Art," compiled by the A. L. A. Visual Methods Committee and printed as part two of the A. L. A. April *Bulletin*, they may be obtained from the Ryerson Library, Art Institute, Chicago, or the A.L.A. The nominal charge of five cents covers only the printing and distribution expense, and it will simplify matters greatly if stamps accompany your request.

### Rural American in Review

"The farmer, his wife and children, may they possess and hand on the heritage of a good kind of life." This toast suggested by Theodore Roosevelt is recalled by Charles Josiah Galpin as a fitting introduction to the broad review of current rural life in this country, to which is devoted most of the February issue of *Rural Life*.

Among the many specialists who have interpreted the forces, institutions, and activities of rural America as they stand forth today, the spokesman for the library is Julia Wright Merrill of the headquarters staff. Mr. Galpin, one of the contributing editors of *Rural America*, acted as editor of the review.

### Teacher-Librarian Training

The report on library instruction in teachers colleges and normal schools—the subject of study by a Joint Committee of the A.A.T.C. and the A.L.A.—was presented by Robert M. Steele, the committee's chairman, at the recent annual meeting of the American Association of Teachers Colleges in St. Louis. Chairman Steele recommended that a joint committee be appointed to study the functions of libraries in the development of reading habits.

# More and Better Booklists for Everyone

By The Booklist Project Committee, Enoch Pratt Free Library\*

FOR a long time librarians have bewailed the duplication of work involved in preparing and printing similar booklists in many libraries. The compilation and distribution of booklists have become a major activity of librarians in recent years and an astonishing variety of lists has been produced. But our appetite for lists grows by what it feeds on, and we keep demanding more specialized and more carefully prepared lists. Any single library is hardly able alone to supply its own needs; the preparation of a few lists on the most important subjects is all that can be managed so long as the work is done over independently in each library.

A project now being undertaken by The H. W. Wilson Company and the Baltimore Junior Members' Round Table is an initial attack on this problem. We wish to supplement the useful annual "Bibliography of Library Reference Lists" in the *Bulletin of Bibliography* by a monthly listing, with descriptions of the more important items, and to provide means of ordering them conveniently thru a central agency. The distribution of the lists will be made thru The H. W. Wilson Company, to which libraries will send their orders for the lists. In addition, the *Wilson Bulletin* will give the space for a "Booklist Forum," where an annotated list will be printed, and from which copies may be ordered.

The purposes of the "Booklist Forum" will be, first, to list all booklists which the issuing libraries are willing to make available to other libraries; second, to call special attention to outstanding, original, and effective lists; third, to point out obvious needs in the booklist field, in the hope that some library or librarian will be inspired to produce a list to fill the need; fourth, to effect connections between those who are working on similar lists; and fifth, to provide a place for discussion of the problems involved in this kind of publicity.

It is planned to begin the Forum with a series of articles on existing lists in each of the major subject fields. Libraries which have lists available for distribution are requested to send at once five copies to the Booklist Project Committee, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Maryland, and a consignment of 100 copies of each to The H. W. Wilson Company, 950 University Ave., New York City. The Wilson Company has suggested that the lists be classified, for purposes of distribution, into three groups. Libraries sending in samples

are asked to indicate in which of the three following groups they wish each list to be placed:

1. Lists sold for a price set by the supplying library. Consignments to be billed to The Wilson Company at a discount to allow for postage and handling.
2. Lists which may be said to be "free, except for postage." These are sold for a nominal price, say, two cents a copy. Such lists to be supplied to The Wilson Company without charge, the postage and handling fee being paid by ordering libraries to The Wilson Company. This category is provided for those libraries which cannot undertake to distribute lists to libraries thru the mail without charging, but can turn over a supply gratis to the agency distributing the material.
3. Lists supplied gratis, without cost to the ordering libraries, but the supplying libraries reimbursing The Wilson Company for the expense entailed in postage and handling. This category is provided for those libraries, if any, which are sufficiently rich and philanthropically inclined to bear the costs of distribution.

These three groups are for single copy orders only. Issuing libraries may wish to fix special prices for quantity orders, and if so, such prices should be indicated. Orders for more than twenty copies will be referred by The Wilson Company to the issuing library for mailing, but The Wilson Company will keep the accounts. If lists can be supplied with the imprint of the purchasing library, that too should be indicated, and the special price quoted.

At first, probably, most orders will be for single copies at two cents or a little more each, the issuing library supplying the lists either free or for a small sum. Arrangements for centralized printing of lists in large quantities for distribution by many libraries are obviously highly desirable, and it will be a major purpose of the committee to work out feasible plans for this. As described, the supplying libraries will send a stock of their booklists to The Wilson Company, from which libraries' orders will be filled by the Vertical File Service department, thus reducing mailing to a minimum.

Clearly the Baltimore Junior Members will need help in assembling the booklists for list-

(Continued on page 549)

\* Edith Bond, Lillian Carlen, Rea J. Steele, Thurston Taylor, Chairman.

# The Mail Bag

[EDITOR'S NOTE: The correspondence columns of the *Wilson Bulletin* are open to all our readers for debate and comment. The Editor is not responsible for opinions expressed in these columns.]

## Librarianship and Organization

To the Editor:

I have read the leading article in the February *Wilson Bulletin*, "Post-Conference Conversation," with more interest than I have read any other article on library work for the past five years. Apparently both of its authors possess open minds, and open minds are the most valuable assets they could possibly bring to a discussion of library work and library salaries.

But I believe that they are guilty of a certain amount of inaccuracy which should be brought to the attention of all readers of their article, because I am convinced that no one should be allowed to think, when the question of the formation of a librarians' union is discussed, that no professional workers have so far formed unions or affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

As a matter of fact, teachers, social workers, doctors, lawyers, engineers, newspaper reporters, college professors, even ministers, have all formed unions, and some of these unions have struck for higher salaries and better working conditions in the past—and won. Thus, even the librarians are touchy about their professional standing, as the authors of "Post-Conference Conversations" seem to believe, they need have no fear that they are blazing a new trail when the thought of a possible librarians' union enters the minds of the most daring of them. On the contrary, even tho a union were formed immediately—and of course it will not be—librarians would be among the last group of professional workers to enter the ranks of organized labor.

Albion A. Hartwell and Caroline Whitney, the former the executive secretary of the Inter-Professional Association, and the latter a fellow of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences, are the authors of an article called "Professional Workers Unionize" which appeared in the *New Republic* for February 19 of this year. I should like to recommend that article not only to the authors of "Post-Conference Conversations" but to all the readers of the *Wilson Bulletin*. I happened to read it shortly after I read the *Bulletin* article of D. N. Thistlethwaite and D. Wycoff, and from it I learned a great many things that

I wish they had known before they attended the last meeting of the American Library Association and before their famous conversation took place.

I learned, for example, that there are 250,000 professional workers in the United States today in trade unions and organizations with acknowledged protective purposes, and that while a great many more persons belong to professional associations like the American Medical Association, the National Education Association and the American Library Association, I also found out that the membership of professional organizations which have failed to act in the economic interest of their members has remained static or has actually fallen off.

I learned that in 1897 Chicago teachers formed a union that affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, and that when the American Federation of Teachers was formed in 1916 twenty local teachers' unions had already joined the organized labor movement. I found out that in 1918 the International Association of Technical Engineers, Architects and Draftsmen's Unions, most of whose members are employed by government agencies, received a charter from the American Federation of Labor, and that before 1920 six national or international unions, as well as many local organizations, offered membership to workers in the majority of salaried professions. I found out that there was even such a thing as a ministers' union, national in scope, which has applied for an American Federation of Labor charter, and that the Association of Hospital and Medical Professionals, which naturally includes trained nurses, has already been granted one.

Librarianship is a salaried profession. To a greater extent even than social work and teaching it is made up of persons who are employed by others rather than of persons who are self-employed. Consequently library workers face exactly the same conditions that any other workers face, and in bad times their salaries are cut just as rapidly. They are as insecure in their jobs even tho they may be in civil service, and the prospect is as bleak for them as it is for salaried workers anywhere. Except as they organize for their own protection they may have the pleasure of laboring for humanity, if they wish to do so, with very little in the way of material compensation.

I know, of course, that the idea of a librarians' union is not new, that it was even discussed at a meeting of the American Library Association in 1919, and that nothing was done

about it at that time because it was felt that organization for personal gain would interfere with the idealism of the library profession. I have no sympathy with such an attitude, not only because I believe that misplaced idealism is likely to turn into the most vicious kind of sentimentalism, but also because I am genuinely interested in the prestige of library work, and experience has proved that prestige usually follows only after adequate pay, no matter what the profession in question.

The very real prestige of the medical and legal and engineering professions exists because until recently at least the financial rewards for men of ability in those professions have been considerable. And the prestige and high standards have followed adequate fees and salaries, not preceded them. Perhaps they would have come anyway, in time, for law and medicine and perhaps engineering are professions bound to be regulated by the state in all civilized countries.

But librarianship unfortunately is not, and no amount of argument will make the majority of people feel that library workers should be licensed and examined as lawyers and doctors are. Therefore, since library employees face a very real difficulty in attempting to impress their importance on the public at large, I cannot help believing that they would be better off if they ceased to stand upon their dignity as members of a profession and attempted instead to stand upon their rights as salaried workers.

I am under no illusion that a librarians' union would be easy to form even if the opinion of the profession were much more favorable toward organization than I believe it to be. In fact, without the help of the federal government and without an NRA code or something very like it it might not be possible at all, for the number of librarians in the entire United States is very small compared with the number of persons in most other professions.

But I believe that within a short time librarians will be forced at least to try to organize for their own protection just as other professional workers have been and are being forced to unite. They may not wish to do it, but I venture to predict that unless they show a more active desire to help themselves in the future than they have ever shown in the past, they may soon find their economic condition worse even than the most pessimistic among them have believed it could be. A writer in the *New York Times* for February 29 of this year points out the fact that New York City library employees alone among city employees are without any pension scheme. She seems to feel that library employees need a spokesman to present their claims to Mayor LaGuardia because they are unable to speak for

themselves. But if they really are unable to speak for themselves no organization or newspaper, however able it may be, can really do them any good. For librarians can improve their own economic condition if they really wish to do so, but timidity and too much respectability have no place in such a scheme.

LOUISE DAVIES

## In Defense of Women

### To the Editor:

Those women who have made library work their profession cannot fail to be incensed at Mr. Smith's article in the March *Wilson Bulletin*. Everyone would agree with him that girls using librarianship as a stop-gap to marriage should be paid low salaries during the few years they might work, but beginners are always at the bottom of the wage scale anyway, so that situation needs no adjustment. As for the turnover caused by these marriages, the problem is not very serious because the positions involved are usually unimportant and readily filled. If a young woman of superior ability goes ahead fast in her first few years and then decides to marry, it is quite likely that she will go on with her career, for at the present time a great many marriages are possible only on the combining of the two salaries of the man and woman. Marriage is supposed to be good for a man, a settling influence or an inspiration, as you like! Why isn't it just as much so for a woman? It is doubtless easier on a girl to be married than to be out several nights a week on "dates"! And in spite of the psychologist there are women so unwomanly as to be able to give up having children without feeling thwarted. Even if the man's salary is adequate to support both himself and his wife, if the woman is more suited to professional work than housework, it is often wiser for her to pay someone to care for her home and go on with her own career.

There has been much talk of attracting young people of unusual talents to library work. Does Mr. Smith suppose any spirited young ladies will want to go to library school if they know beforehand that "any talk of equal pay for men and women doing the same work is ridiculous"? And if "a social system prevails in which men occupy the rôle of providers and women that of homemakers," what are those of us to do who have neither fathers, husbands, nor brothers? Would going on relief be the "womanly" way out? As for "single women without dependents" there is always an aged parent, a nephew or a cousin to use up any surplus that the single woman can spare from the advanced study or cultural travel that she feels necessary to her profes-

sional morale. As she grows older she finds most of her friends married, immersed in their family affairs, and she is left more and more to her own resources to fill the time during which she is not working. If her salary has been low thru all the years she has had to keep up payments on an annuity, pension, or insurance, her life will have become very bleak and unsatisfying and she will be advising the girls she knows to marry—marry anybody, but give up all thought of being a librarian because it is a profession in which only men get ahead financially, leaving to the women the small comfort of eulogies on their "lives of service." Mr. Smith's suggestion that "the only just way to solve the problem of comparative salaries of men and women is on the basis of their relative needs" sounds a bit like Mussolini's policy of a bonus for every baby; in effect, he says, "Young man, if you would get ahead, marry and reproduce, for only in accordance with your needs will your salary advance!"

Most women librarians would be glad to compete with men on an equal basis. Many positions could admittedly be filled more adequately by men, but if the incentive of advancement to responsibility and financial success—for the two go together—is lacking in the library field, able women will look elsewhere for their life work.

KATHARINE M. STOKES  
State College, Pa.

## The Noblest Ideal

### To the Editor:

Upon re-reading in your *March Bulletin* a letter I wrote a short time ago, I regret to see that if there is a point, it has been lost in the number of words I used to make it. Such is the disadvantage of talking too much.

I did not mean that a librarian should be a half-witted, characterless person, nor that a library should contain no books worth discussing.

A library should supply information on all sides of all questions to all people who want to read, but a librarian should not sacrifice the reputation of being an impartial and intelligent guide to source material, in order to take sides on controversial questions. There are pulpits, lecture rostrums, Republican platforms, and soap boxes to argue from—but only one slim group is pledged to give impartial and conscientious service to all these warring factions.

It is a librarian's duty to further knowledge and promote understanding, and it will be a tragic misuse of opportunity, if suspicion and hatred are developed instead.

I live in continual terror lest some stupid or vicious government official should usurp au-

thority, and tell me what I may say, read, or hear over the radio, or lest I, unintentionally, should be equally "un-American" in my treatment of someone else. Individual freedom is the noblest ideal that civilization has evolved.

The Roving Eye quoted Thomas Paine, and I, too, believe that a government cannot fail, if it is what its people want. However, government cannot do to or for us—the government is us. It is also conservatives and radicals; people out of work, and capitalists; Townsendsites and those with Fascist or Communist beliefs. I wish none of those people would fear or be suspicious of us librarians, and, perhaps there are too few of us, and perhaps we are not qualified, but I wish we could explain one group to the other, and make libraries clearing-houses of facts and of warring principles. We cannot do it by taking sides. Matters can be settled only in a neutral zone.

MARY ELIZABETH JOHNSON, *Librarian*  
Washington Court House, Ohio

P.S. Since you ask for opinions (on library planks in state platforms), I agree with "Director, State Library Extension System," page 446 in the *March Bulletin*.

## Library Planks in State Platforms

### To the Editor:

The article entitled "Should There be Library Planks in State Platforms?" in the *March Wilson Bulletin* attracted my attention particularly as there seemed to be only two definitely dissenting voices. My staff and I would like to add ours as a third.

From what I have heard and read about party politics, I am convinced that public libraries have nothing to gain by mixing in the campaign *mélée*. As a number of your correspondents admit, "the library would get short shrift in the fierce scrimmage," and "would be used as grist to the mill of campaigning, and seldom heard of again after the election."

Admitting this, the advertising value to the library, would, to my mind be very doubtful, and in addition, might be used as an opening wedge to a field for the arduous cultivation of the spoils system. I think that the people who are in favor of a library plank in political platforms should read "The New Spoils System," which appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly* for February and again in the *Reader's Digest* for March. Let us stick to the old slogan, "Keep the Library out of politics." Get more money and publicity for libraries, yes! but devise some other means.

LIBRARIAN OF A SMALL LIBRARY





# The Month at Random



Volume 10

Number 8

## WILSON BULLETIN FOR LIBRARIANS

April 1936

**A** PASSAGE in the Annual Report of the Rochester (N.Y.) Public Library, by Director John A. Lowe, calls attention to one of the most serious problems facing the public library today; namely, the deflection of children's interest from books and from the use of the library as a primary form of amusement:

In regard to work with children in the branches conditions prevail similar to those experienced by adults. The four-day opening schedule has reduced crowding and made possible more personal work with *the children who come to us*. The work is of better quality, less hurried and superficial; some of the library atmosphere has returned and there is opportunity, tho still limited, for children to browse among the books and make their selections quietly. The library has lost as borrowers a great mass of children during the years of curtailed service, and has failed to gain as users a large part of the younger generation that has recently come of library age.

This was not so apparent until this year; in fact the tapering off has probably been gradual, and distributed more or less over the past three years. The work of advertising the library to children must begin all over again, not with a startling campaign but by bringing the library to children's attention in many ways, and at all times.

While curtailed service, shabby books, and the paucity of fresh material—all phenomena of the depression—are, no doubt, partly responsible for the loss of children's patronage, librarians must not fail to keep in mind that they are working in direct competition with new and aggressive claimants for the leisure of boys and girls. The radio, the motion picture, and organized sport have captured the child's world, laid hold on his imagination, excited his senses, so that he has little time and less patience left for

the printed word. Is reading becoming too slow, too difficult, an adventure for the modern child? The evidence seems to point to an affirmative answer. As the Rochester report states, "The work of advertising the library to children must begin all over again." Librarians and educators must work hand in hand to re-acquaint children with the deep and abiding delights of literature.

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"With the ever rising costs of labor and materials used in bookbinding, it becomes necessary for librarians to take advantage of every opportunity to reduce the cost of binding," writes Earl W. Browning, Chairman of the Bookbinding Committee, in the *A.L.A. Bulletin* for March.

"Librarians are now in a position to save from \$10,000 to \$20,000 annually if they will adopt standardized lettering for bound periodicals, now in use in California and recommended by the Joint Committee of the American Library Association and the Library Binding Institute. The saving to each library will not be large, probably five cents per volume, but the aggregate will amount to the price of several thousand new books."

Under standardized lettering, periodicals are divided into six groups, according to their height when bound. A full explanation is given in Mr. Browning's article.

In order to effect this saving, standardized lettering must be accepted by a majority of the libraries which send their periodicals to library binders. If you will accept standardized lettering for periodicals or wish to have further information about it, please write to Earl W. Browning, Librarian, Public Library, Peoria, Illinois.

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The United States Office of Education has collected statistics on libraries at irregular periods since 1870. The last comprehensive study was for 1929, and is published as Bulletin, 1930, No. 37, *Statistics of Public, Society, and School Libraries, 1929*.

The Office of Education is collecting statistics wherever possible thru superintendents' offices rather than directly from each school. This method will give statistics of elementary as well as high schools for the first time.

The results of the investigation should be useful to school superintendents and librarians.

because they will show the practice in various types of elementary and secondary schools under city and county administration in providing library facilities; how large the libraries are; where the money comes from to support them; and how much is spent for different library purposes.

The success of this study, according to the Office of Education, will depend upon (1) availability of school library data in superintendents' offices; (2) cooperation and promptness of superintendents in reporting.

The school librarian can help the Office of Education, by seeing that statistics for the library are on file in the superintendent's office, and that the superintendent sends in his report.

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At the Second Citizens' conference on the Library Needs of South Carolina held recently at the University of South Carolina, Mrs. Hagood Bostick, librarian of the Richland county public library, told the story of Robert Lewis of Columbia, S.C., who has received nation-wide publicity as the first person in America to discover the new star Nova Herculis.

Lewis, an 18-year old high school student, built a telescope from information obtained from a book in the Richland County Public Library. Other astronomy books in the library aided him in his study. One afternoon, while delivering papers, Lewis noticed a new star in the sky and telegraphed to Harvard. His discovery was relayed to the University of Virginia. The star had already been noticed by an astronomer in England, but Lewis was the first person who saw it in the United States. Lewis gave credit to the Richland County Public Library for aiding him with books on astronomy. As a result of his discovery, he was awarded a two-year scholarship to the University of South Carolina, to be followed by a fellowship at the University of Virginia.

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A display of library publicity is being arranged by the A. L. A. Publicity Committee for the Richmond conference to be held May 11 to 16. Will librarians send their best posters, leaflets, reading lists, pictures of exhibits, graphs, cartoons or other publicity material *except newspaper stories* for exhibit to Will Collins, John Marshall Hotel, Richmond, so that it will arrive May 4 to 9? Any material received later than May 9 cannot be displayed.

Material lent for display will be returned collect, on request. Share your effective publicity with other librarians who can perhaps profit with you by this pooling of ideas.

Now in its seventeenth year, the *Gold Star List of American Fiction* published by the Syracuse (N.Y.) Public Library Staff offers its annual list of good stories from 1821 to 1936.

About twenty new titles have been added during the year, including *Lucy Gayheart* by Willa Cather, *Voice of Bugle Ann* by McKinlay Kantor and, of course, Sinclair Lewis' *It Can't Happen Here*. "Nineteen thirty-five," says the introduction to the *Gold Star List*, "shows no lack of interest in the historical background. Pennsylvania, Charleston, South Carolina, Michigan, and Maine are among the scenes for good stories of last year." Excusing itself for including some books which would not be liked in Boston, the *Gold Star List* says, "It becomes harder and harder to discriminate between books you feel perfectly sure of for a place on the living room table and books you are doubtful about because of the language or behavior of the performers. Sometimes a book has to be included in the *Gold Star List* altho the people in it are not nice people; the excuse is that the *Gold Star List* is a composite picture of the American scene, and Americans, as everyone must admit, are a mixed crowd." Single copies of the *Gold Star List* are obtainable from the Syracuse Public Library for 25 cents payable in advance; discount on ten or more copies.

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Jewish Book Week will be observed May 10-16. Librarians wishing to organize for it are requested to write to Fanny Goldstein, Librarian of the West End Branch, 131 Cambridge St., Boston, who will be happy to offer suggestions for the tenth annual observance of Jewish Book Week. See also her article in our April 1933 issue.

The Boston Public Library is issuing a supplement to the 1934 edition of *Judaica*. This is obtainable on request from Miss Goldstein.

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A new biographical booklet on Pearl S. Buck is available from John Day Company for 10 cents. It is an elaboration of Richard J. Walsh's introduction to *The First Wife*. A complete bibliography of Mrs. Buck's book and magazine writings is included.

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*An Autobiographical Note* by Alvin Johnson, author of *Spring Storm*, is obtainable from Alfred A. Knopf. Mr. Johnson, one of the most distinguished of American sociologists and economists, makes his bow at the age of sixty-one as a novelist.

The Catholic Library Association is having its Fourth Annual Convention in St. Louis at St. Louis University on April 14-16, 1936. Headquarters will be at St. Louis University.

The Catholic Library Association presents "itself, its aims and accomplishments" in a pamphlet entitled *The Catholic Library Association*, edited by A. B. Cote, O.P.

Writing on the "Ideals of the Catholic Library Association," Peter J. Etzig, C.S.S.R., President of the Association, emphasizes that

"... librarians are more than people who merely check books, type cards, and flick the dust from ancient tomes; not merely connoisseurs of ancient manuscripts, selectors of books; compilers of lists and indices. Their essential function is not merely clerical but administrative. The reaches of their profession, and it is a profession not just another job, extend to the heights—they are the har-

vesters, the conservers and the professional diffusers of all recorded Truth."

Elinor Jean Francis, Librarian of the Red Oak (Iowa) Public Library, asks us to announce that the following bound volumes will be given to any library that wants them for the cost of the shipping charges:

American magazine. Vols. 64-7, 69. (1907-10)

Atlantic Monthly. Vol. XV-XVIII (1865-6)

Century. Vols. XXXV-XXXVIII (1887-9)

Harpers. Vols. 46-53; 58-63 (1872-6, 1879-81)

Review of Reviews. Vols. 7-10 (1893-4)

Brigham, Johnson. Iowa, its history and its foremost citizens. 3v. ¾ lea. Chicago. S. J. Clarke Pub. Co. 1915. (Excellent condition)

## Junior Librarians Section

(Continued from page 529)

on Personal Exchanges. I gather that both these workers in the exchange field have become discouraged by the lack of enthusiasm and that things move very slowly. However, it is good to know that there is an agency for those who would like to avail themselves of its services.

Miss Ziegler also encloses a copy of a letter to C. P. Baber, which is self-explanatory:

Dear Mr. Baber:

Your study, "Junior Members Sections in Library Associations," was extremely interesting and very thoro. It is fine to know how many young librarians all over the country are doing work together and for the American Library Association.

I knew you would want to hear of any changes and I am anxious to correct the facts about the New Jersey group. What Miss Gates has said applies to the beginning of the American Library Association Junior Members Section; the New Jersey group was formed after the American Library Association meeting in Chicago in 1933, when I presented the report of Mrs. Mildred Clapp Chamberlin, of the Newark Public Library, Business Branch, on "Library School Training." The junior members present were urged to form state groups and it was as a result of this meeting that the New Jersey junior members organized. Miss Zimmerman was the first president; Miss Agnes C. Norton is now president and another election will be held at the state conference in March. I feel sure that thirty-five (35) is the age

limit, since it was felt wiser to follow the national group in this respect.

The Junior Librarians Section in the *Wilson Bulletin* is certainly a step forward for us as a group, and will be an addition to professional knowledge if it contains many articles so useful as your survey.

HELEN T. ZIEGLER

## New York Juniors

The following information corrects and supplements the references to The Junior Members Section of the New York Library Association in our March issue ("Junior Members' Sections in Library Associations," by C. P. Baber, p. 463f.):

The present chairman is Margaret O. Meier, Public Library, Rochester, N.Y.

There are 205 Junior Members, approximately 10 per cent of the total state membership. The by-law referring to eligibility to membership in the Association, adopted September 24, 1934 reads as follows "Membership. The Junior Members Section of the NYLA shall be composed of members of the New York Library Association under 35 years of age, who are interested in promoting the professional and social interests of the younger members of the NYLA." Altho the by-law carries no specification in exact words that a member shall cease to belong to the group at the age of 35, it does specify "members of the New York Library Association *under 35 years of age*," which is interpreted as meaning that membership terminates at the age of 35.

## History Reading Groups in the Library

(Continued from page 511)

the library period was contributing to a better understanding of the regular history assignments. The reactions to the fifth question were much desired, and we have proceeded this year to develop our technique with these constructive suggestions in mind. We propose to duplicate books as soon as we are more certain of pupil likes and dislikes. During the past summer the entire library has been newly equipped not with standardized library furniture but with the type of leather furniture that one finds in private libraries. Nothing has done more to create a reading atmosphere than this addition of homelike comfort.

The successful operation of this or any similar library reading plan depends much upon the intelligent cooperation of the school librarian and the teachers. In Brookline we have been particularly fortunate in this respect. With one teacher responsible for notifying the library of the books we desire on the reserve shelves for a given unit of work, the stage is always well set for our groups. But after the librarian sets the stage much depends upon the technique developed by the teacher. Much must be planned in advance if valuable time is not to be lost in the library period. We have learned that pupils should have a pretty definite idea of what exercises they plan to select before going to the library. Careful consideration of this matter in class has been found helpful. But perhaps the instructor's greatest contribution lies in learning early the interests of individuals and building thereon. If the teacher knows his pupils, there will be comparatively smooth sailing, for he will not insist upon killing interest in reading by attempting to impose his own cultural interests upon the pupil—merely one of democracy's millions. We must not lose sight of the fact that the cultural tastes and interests of many of our pupils are limited. Finally, I would suggest that school librarians must be more militant in their demands for more and better books and for more adequate equipment. Administrators must be made to see that

if boys and girls leave school without acquiring a taste for recreational reading, there is little that they will carry from the school as a permanent possession. Then what becomes of that sixth cardinal principle—"worthy use of leisure"—that administrators delight to talk and write about? Yes, the children of the masses are entitled to enjoy a little civilization in school, and adequate library equipment—including even some comfortable leather chairs—may be the first requisite for a belated introduction to some small degree of civilization.

## More and Better Booklists

(Continued from page 542)

ing and description. We hope that all libraries will send the Booklist Project Committee as soon as possible five editorial copies of all booklists which they have on hand, and are willing to sell or give away; and to The H. W. Wilson Company the 100 copies for stock. We hope also that individuals, Junior members or others, in those libraries which issue many lists, will associate themselves with the committee and keep us supplied with copies of current lists and with information on forthcoming lists. We hope, finally, that anyone who is interested in the booklist problem will write us; the "Booklist Forum" is anxious for suggestions and criticisms.

Our first listing will appear in an early issue of the *Wilson Bulletin*.

## MAY BOOK CLUB CHOICES

*Book of the Month Club*

Education Before Verdun, by Arnold Zweig. Viking

*Literary Guild*

Beyond Sing the Woods, by Trygve Gulbransen. Putnam

*Junior Literary Guild*

Older boys—Sou'wester Sails, by Arthur Baldwin. Random House

Older girls—For Keeps, by Gertrude E. Mallette. Doubleday, Doran

Intermediate group—Children of Banana Land, by Melicent H. Lee. Crowell

Primary group—The Children Make a Garden, by Dorothy H. Jenkins; Traffic, by M. Lowndes and F. N. Chrystie. Doubleday, Doran

*Catholic Book Club* (April selection)

The King's Good Servant, by Olive B. White. Macmillan



# THE LIGHTHOUSE



## To Librarians in Flood Areas

WE have no way of knowing, as we go to press, to what extent libraries have suffered from the disastrous floods that have swept thru various sections of the country, but we wish to announce that if any publications of The H. W. Wilson Company have been destroyed by flood, fire, or other misfortune, we shall be glad to share the loss and to make very low prices for replacement. We suggest that libraries that have suffered the loss of any Wilson publications should send us a list of the volumes that need replacement, so that we may have the opportunity of cooperating with them by assuming a substantial part of the financial burden.

## Wilson Book Notes

### Index to Short Stories: Second Supplement.

By Ina T. Firkins. 295p. \$6. Sold also on the service basis.

The first edition of the *Index to Short Stories* was published in 1915, and the second, much enlarged and revised, edition in 1923. The First Supplement was published 1929, to which is now added this Second Supplement covering the indexing of 9,630 stories by over 2000 authors. Since overlapping of authors and stories indexed is unavoidable, the three volumes should be used together.

The form of the index is the same as for the earlier volumes: author, title and subject entries in one alphabet. Under each author's name, the stories are listed in alphabetical order, and following each, the sources for the story are arranged as follows:

1. Complete works of the author,
2. Individual volumes of the author's works,
3. Composite collections of stories,
4. Periodical references.

The index is supplemented by: A list of the periodicals from which references are taken; A list of the books of individual authors indexed; A list of the composite collections analyzed.

**South American Handbook.** 1936. 1x,650p. \$1 postpaid.

The 1936 edition of the *South American Handbook*, now in its thirteenth year of issue, bears witness to the intensive revision entailed

by a continent where new roads, fresh air services, rail routes, hotels and even ports are being added year by year. Latin-America is still in a process of rapid transformation and this no doubt accounts for the fact that there is barely a paragraph in this new edition which remains untouched.

The book is designed to give the trader a maximum of essential information about all the countries falling within its scope. It caters also for the visitor to South America, the traveler pure and simple, or the man who hopes to relax occasionally from business and take his pleasure. Particulars about the countries and towns are varied with descriptions of interesting places to visit; there are lists of hotels to stay at, information about the people, and how to get about from place to place.

### The Neutrality Policy of the United States.

By Julia E. Johnsen. (Reference Shelf. Vol. 10. No. 7) 90c postpaid.

This book, just off the press, contains a selection of leading articles from up-to-date sources on the question, classified, according to the plan of the series, as General, Affirmative, and Negative. A selected bibliography and summaries of the arguments for and against are also included.

## Books in Press

**A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF DANCING.** Paul Magriel, comp.

**AMERICAN LITERARY ANNUALS: 1825-1865.** By Ralph Thompson.

Mr. Thompson, formerly associate editor of *Current History* has recently joined the editorial staff of the *New York Times* as assistant to Robert Van Gelder, editor of the book review columns. His book will be an interesting addition to the history of American publishing, for the light it casts on a rather curious phase of this history, and in that these gift books often carried early work of our better known American writers and illustrators. To his explanation of the origin and character of these annuals, Mr. Thompson has added an extensive annotated catalog.

**CHILDREN'S SONG INDEX.** By Helen G. Cushing, comp.

**EDUCATIONAL FILM CATALOG.**

**AN INDEX TO HOLIDAY PLAYS FOR SCHOOLS.** Hilah Paulmier.

LITERARY CHARACTERS DRAWN FROM LIFE. By Earle Walbridge.

OCCUPATIONS AND VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE: A SOURCE LIST OF PAMPHLET MATERIAL. By Wilma Bennett. 2d ed. rev.

STANDARD CATALOG FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES: SECOND SUPPLEMENT.

STYLE BOOK OF THE H. W. WILSON COMPANY PUBLICATIONS. rev. ed.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF DOCUMENTS: GUIDE TO PUBLICATIONS AND RELEASES OF THE FERA AND THE FORTY-EIGHT STATE RELIEF AGENCIES. By Jerome K. Wilcox.

Mr. T. W. Huntington, editor and publisher of *La Scheda Cumulativa Italiana*, writes that he has just concluded an "exchange" arrangement with the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche in Italy, whereby this very important Governmental source of information on scientific publications is available for checking. Editorial work on *La Scheda* is now done with the collaboration of the "Consiglio" as well as the Italian Ministry of Education in Italy, and the Library of Congress in this country, all of whom have voluntarily placed at the editor's disposal available materials that may aid in making the work more complete. The 1935 Annual of *La Scheda* is now being printed, and copies will be available by April.

### What they Say

Manual of Cataloging and Classification for Elementary and Small High School Libraries. By Margaret F. Johnson. 2d ed. rev. 49p. pa. 50c postpaid.

"The use of this manual in aiding the inexperienced school librarian will be of infinite help. Mrs. Johnson does not attempt to present new or unusual ideas, but rather to provide aids to simplify the task often confronting young and inexperienced librarians, or those who must organize a new library of small or moderate size and who feel the need of a non-technical, profusely-illustrated guide. The school librarian may be assured that the information and help presented in this booklet are of practical value."—*Reba Boomershine*, in *The Library Journal*.

Motion Picture Review Digest. Began publication December 16, 1934. Issued weekly and cumulated. Sold on the service basis.

"The House of Wilson has long been known for its quick responsiveness to the needs of libraries for indexes to current literature—general or in special fields. Its latest service to libraries is the publication of the *Motion Picture Review Digest*, which indexes and digests, cumulatively, reviews of motion pictures in much the same way that the *Book Review Digest* has covered book reviews for the past thirty years.

"Now that the movie is taking a more definite place as a cultural agency, that there is serious reviewing of current film productions in the leading magazines and in new periodicals exclusively devoted to motion pictures, and that readers, having confidence in the library, turn to it for judgments on the value of such film productions, the library naturally responds with the best available information.

"To supply such information a number of libraries have been clipping such reviews and mounting them on cards and making their own digests. To avoid this expensive and wasteful process, libraries appealed to The Wilson Company to do the work for them and received the expected response in the form of this new digest. . . .

"For this new library aid, Mr. Wilson, many thanks." *George F. Boweyman*, Chairman Visual Methods Committee, in the *A.L.A. Bulletin*.

Stabilization of Money. By J. G. Hodgson. (Reference Shelf. Vol. VIII. No. 7) 238p. 90c postpaid.

When your readers come to you for material on Inflation, remember there is a bibliography and a group of articles on this particular subject in the book listed above.

"This book more than any other, supplies valuable data on this interesting phase of controlled economy."—*Chemical Markets*.

"An invaluable book of reference."—*The Bankers Magazine*.

### BOOKS FOR YOUTH

*Books for Youth*, a list of books compiled by a committee of the Library Association of Great Britain under the editorship of W. C. Berwick Sayers, is a revised edition of an earlier list which appeared in 1930 as *Books to Read*, with a Supplement in 1931. In the revision many titles appearing in the earlier work have been omitted to make room for a selection of new works published since 1931.

The object of this compilation as stated in the Preface is to "provide a selection of the best books in the world in English and on all subjects for boys and girls in their teens."

The arrangement of material, as in the earlier edition, is by the Dewey Decimal System, tho the appearance of a classed catalog has been avoided by placing the classification following the note for each book rather than at the head of the class. There are 3,310 titles listed, with index by author, title and a few subjects.

The books included vary in grade from Susan Coolidge's *What Katy Did* to Hardy's *Mayor of Casterbridge*. The emphasis is largely upon books of English origin, tho some American titles are included. It is interesting to note that altho eight books are entered under Germany, and twenty-two under France, the United States is represented by seven titles, four of which are biographies.

The book will undoubtedly be useful in English libraries because of the large numbers of books suggested for young people, and because of the very helpful annotations.

The Annual Report of the Public Library of the District of Columbia announces an innovation in the form of loan art displays. Exhibitions of frescoes by Diego Rivera, facsimiles of old masters, advertisements by Rockwell Kent, drawings by Covarrubias, and collections of book jackets were sent in rotation to the schools.

# The Book Preview

— for April 1936 —

## A Classified, Selected List of Current and Forthcoming Books

The purpose of the Preview is to give publishers a convenient and efficient means of presenting to the library world advance information regarding forthcoming books.

The publishers select the books which they recommend for library use, supply the descriptive notes and also cooperate by paying the cost of this section of the Bulletin.

The staff of The H. W. Wilson Company is responsible for the classification and for editing of the descriptive notes.

### 000 GENERAL WORKS

WILCOX, JEROME KEAR. Unemployment relief documents. 96p Wilson (April)  
016.33125 Unemployed. U.S. Economic policy

A bibliography which brings together into one comprehensive list all of the official publications and releases, mimeographed, multi-graphed, rotographed, printed, etc. and even many manuscript reports of the Federal and forty-eight state relief agencies, and will enable the relief worker, the social worker and the librarian to readily discover what official research studies, periodic reports and informational and staff instructional releases have been issued. It covers approximately the period from 1933 to 1935 inclusive altho some references for 1932 and 1936 appear. (See *Who's Who in Library Service*)

PAULMIER, HILAH CODDINGTON, comp. Index to holiday plays for schools. 64p Wilson  
016.8 Drama—Bibl.

Holidays, special days and special weeks, etc. are listed in alphabetic order and a list of plays given suitable for each.

EHRSAM, THEODORE GEORGE and DEILY, ROBERT H. comps. Bibliographies of twelve Victorian authors. 362p \$4 Wilson (Ready)  
016.82 English literature—19th century—Bibliography

Compiled under the direction of Robert M. Smith, Professor of English, Lehigh university. The twelve authors are: Matthew Arnold, E. B. Browning, A. H. Clough, Edward Fitzgerald, Thomas Hardy, Rudyard Kipling, William Morris, Christina Rossetti, D. G. Rossetti, Stevenson, Swinburne and Alfred Tennyson. For each author there is included a bibliography of the author's own works, and biographical and critical books and magazine articles about him.

FIRKINS, INA TEN EYCK, comp. Index to short stories. 2d Supplement 287p \$6; also on service basis Wilson (April)  
016.823 Short stories—Bibl.

Supplements the compiler's *Short Story Index* (1923) and *Supplement* (1929). An index to 9630 stories by 2082 authors, which shows where the stories may be found in collected works, separate volumes, periodicals or composite collections. All material indexed is in English but many of the stories are by foreign writers. (See *Who's Who in Library Service*; *STC*)

KIBRE, PEARL. Library of Pico della Mirandola. 330p \$4 Columbia univ. press (Ready)

027.1 Libraries, Private. Mirandola, Pico di An "Inventory" of the famous Renaissance humanist's library, showing literature read during the period of his life, 1463-1494. An appendix reproduces the text of one of the contemporary inventories, hitherto unpublished.

### 100 PHILOSOPHY

GARLAND, HAMLIN. Forty years of psychic research. 470p \$3 Macmillan (April 21)

133.9 Spiritualism

A chronological narrative of the outstanding experiments which the author has conducted as an investigator of spiritualistic phenomena. Much of the material is drawn from his diaries, notebooks and official reports as chairman of a research committee. An unusual narrative of mysterious occurrences. (See *Living Authors*; *STC* for other books by this author; *Hunting list*)

TAYLOR, ALFRED EDWARD. Plato, the man and his work. 522p \$2.50 Dial press (Ready)

184.1 Plato

A new printing of the 1926 edition of this standard work formerly available at \$5. Gives a life of Plato and an analysis of each of the dialogues. The chronological tables and the appendix on the Platonic apocrypha, which were added in the 1929 edition are not included here. (See *STC*; *ERD* 1927)

### 200 RELIGION

STEINMUELLER, JOHN E. Some problems in the Old Testament. Bruce pub. (May)

221.7 Bible—O.T.—Criticism, interpretation, etc.

The first English book to gather together, conservatively and concisely, the Catholic church's interpretations of the most difficult problems of the Old Testament. The author begins by stating the principle of inerrancy and its implications, applying it to two special problems—the creation account, and the "sun episode" of Joshua. Next, he takes up the distinction between profane and religious elements in Holy Scripture. Then, with encyclical *Providentissimus Deus* as his basis, he lays down principles for the solution of historical difficulties; he examines the varieties of literary forms in the Bible; gives a brief but interesting chronology of the Jews from the creation to the coming of Christ; and treats the question of quotations. An appendix answers some questions about the Old Testament morality. The whole constitutes a most valuable reference work for seminary and collect Scripture classes, for Scripture teachers, educated laymen, and priests.

WAITZ, S., bp. The greatest calling; tr. by Joseph Stang. Bruce pub. (May)

242 Meditations

A series of twelve meditations for priests developed from conferences given by the bishop at a priests' retreat and thus possessing the personal touch and life of a spoken discourse. The subjects covered are fundamental in the priestly life namely, the destiny of man, death and judgment, the life of prayer of the priest,

the priestly calling, etc. The treatment is based very definitely on Scripture and the writings of the fathers and other ecclesiastical writers. Without doubt priests will find in this book a great deal that will prove useful to them in their daily spiritual life. The author is a special friend and confidant of Therese Neumann, the modern mystic whose case has baffled scientists.

LAY, WILHELM AUGUST. Experimental pedagogy; tr. by A. Weil and E. K. Schwartz. 271p \$2.25 Prentice-Hall, Inc. (Ready)

271.3 Education—Experimental methods

An important work by an outstanding authority in pedagogy and the father of modern experimental education. This first English translation of the work has a 125-page introduction by Paul R. Radosavljevic, Professor of Experimental Education at New York university.

### 300 SOCIAL SCIENCES

JOHNSON, JULIA EMILY, comp. Neutrality policy of the United States. (Reference shelf v. 10, no. 7) 267p 90c Wilson (April)

327.73 U.S.—Neutrality

Reprints from experts on the subject, or representing varied points of view are given, with a classified bibliography particularly representing up-to-date material for the debater and student of current thought. A summary of leading arguments, pro and con, is included. (See STC for other works)

LAIDLER, HARRY WELLINGTON. Program for modern America. 500p \$2.50 Crowell (April 21)

330.973 U.S.—Economic conditions. U.S.—Social conditions

This well-known writer on social and industrial topics gives us a book on present-day problems in the United States and how he thinks they should be met. Contains chapters on Unemployment insurance, Old age pensions, Housing, Utilities, Railroads, etc. (See STC for other books by this author)

MILLER, SPENCER, ed. What the International labor organization means to America. 108p \$1.50 Columbia univ. press (Ready)

338.9 International labor organization

Ten scholars and specialists tell how the various parts of the international labor organization function and discuss the problems which arise out of American membership.

### 400 PHILOLOGY

MENCKEN, HENRY LOUIS. American language. 4th ed rev and enl 800p \$5 Knopf (May 11)

427.9 English language. Americanisms. Names—U.S. Names—Personal

A new edition of this brilliant and absorbing book on the differences between the English of England and English of America. The author has long been a student of language and in addition to pointing out the differences traces many to their origins. The new edition contains 250 more pages than the third, and has been almost completely rewritten. The chief emphasis is on the language as it is used today. (See *Living Authors*; STC; *Hunting list*)

### 500 SCIENCE

SCHENK, EDWARD T. and McMASTERS, JOHN H. Procedure in taxonomy. 72p \$2 Stanford univ. press (Ready)

580 Botany—Classification

A brief, clear-cut, well organized statement of the principles of taxonomy, suited alike to the student and the professional systematist.

The International rules of zoological nomenclature are reprinted in full, together with Summaries of opinions rendered to the present date. Contains complete index to these rules and opinions.

### 600 USEFUL ARTS

TUSTISON, F. E. and KRANZUSCH, R. F. Metalwork essentials. II Bruce pub. (May)

671 Metal-work

Thirty-three units, each involving basic information and directions for work, comprise this introduction to metalworking for beginners. Besides providing an immense amount of general information of metals, metal working as a trade, uses of metal for various industrial, commercial, and home applications, it acquaints the student with a large variety of everyday tools and their uses. The skills which are involved in the various operations have a wide application in any occupation or general life activity. The course is intended to be exploratory in that the student may learn from experience whether he is interested in metalwork and whether he has the natural aptitudes with which he may develop into a metalworker. Each unit is fully illustrated and includes a series of pertinent questions.

### 700 FINE ARTS

CHAMBERLAIN, SAMUEL. Small house in the sun: the visage of rural New England. 96p II \$4 Hastings house, 110 West 42 Street, New York, N. Y. (Ready)

728 Architecture, Domestic—New England. Architecture, Colonial. Architecture—New England

A pictorial document for lovers of Americana. Beautiful large photogravure reproductions of photographs of old New England houses and their setting in village, farm and seacoast.

### 800 LITERATURE

VINAL, HAROLD. Hurricane; a chronicle of the Maine coast. 104p \$2 Daye (Ready)

811

Narrative poem about Hurricane island in the days when granite quarries and shipping flourished on the coast of Maine.

WALBRIDGE, EARLE. Literary characters drawn from life. 200p Wilson (April)

818.5 Character and characteristics in literature. Supernatural in literature

"Romans à Clef," "Dramas à Clef" and "Real people in poetry," are essays on real people who, with their identity concealed, have been the subject of novels, plays and poems. Some of the material has appeared previously in literary periodicals. "Half-told tales," "Poetry of the supernatural" and some other essays are also included.

AYRES, HARRY MORGAN. Carroll's Alice. 98p II \$2 Columbia univ. press (April 16)

823 Carroll, Lewis, pseud. Alice's adventures in Wonderland

Based on an address delivered at Columbia on the hundredth anniversary of Carroll's birth. Material on the "Anglo-Saxon attitudes" of the messengers and on the withdrawal of the first edition of *Alice* have been added. There is also a phonetic transcription of *Jabberwocky*.

### 900 HISTORY

MITCHELL, MAIRIN. Traveller in time. 324p \$2.50 Sheed (Ready)

914 Europe—Description and travel

Travels in Ireland and Europe, with vivid pictures of historical incidents in places visited.

Say you read it in the *Wilson Bulletin*



ALLIS, MARGUERITE. English prelude. 352p il \$3.50 Putnam (April 17)

914.2 England—Description and travel

The author's story of her visit to England to look up the homes of our ancestors including not only the homes of the Washingtons and Penns but many other places which sent out from one to a dozen pioneers to America. Told with charm and enthusiasm. With 74 drawings by the author.

HYSLIP, BEATRICE FRY. Guide to the General cahiers of 1789; with the text of unedited cahiers. 474p il \$5 Columbia univ. press (Ready)

944.04 France—États-généraux, 1789—Cahiers. France—History—Revolution 1789-1799

Guide to the *Cahiers* or statements of grievances drawn up for the guidance of deputies to the States-General. Gives a table of cahiers and texts of 34 cahiers, not hitherto available except in manuscript, and new contributions to the estimation of the value of these documents.

## BIOGRAPHY

HICKS, GRANVILLE. John Reed; the making of a revolutionary. 432p il \$3 Macmillan (April 14)

B or 92 Reed, John

John Reed was born in Portland, Oregon, the grandson of one of the city's founders and leading business men; he died in Moscow and was buried under the Kremlin, in the spot sacred to the martyrs of the revolution. Here is the story of his boyhood, his Harvard days, his experiences as a reporter and war correspondent. There is scarcely a famous person of the decade from 1910 to 1920 who does not figure in this book. It is a thrilling story of an adventurous career.

WARFEL, HARRY R. Noah Webster; schoolmaster to America. 404p il \$4 Macmillan (April 28)

B or 92 Webster, Noah

A biography with a rich background of American history and social conditions of the period. Webster was more than the author of the first American dictionary. He was "the father of American copyright," the first noteworthy American literary critic, the author of the first history of epidemic diseases, and the author of the first important American revised version of the Scriptures. Many amusing contemporary opinions enliven the narrative. (See Hunting list)

## FICTION

DERN, PEGGY. Tomorrow's roses. about 288p \$2 Arcadia house (April 24)

How the inheritance of a fortune at the age of sixty affected Miss Lissy, harassed and overworked boarding-house keeper, pretty Iris Ormond, and stalwart Scott Barclay, makes a gay and engaging story. (See Hunting list)

FROST, FREDERICK. Secret agent number one. 288p \$2 Macrae-Smith-co. (April 15)

International intrigue on the Rivera. "Exciting yarn, with plenty of intricate plots within plots," says Virginia Kirkus. (See Hunting list)

GULBRANSEN, TRYGVE. Beyond sing the woods; tr. by Naomi Walford. 320p \$2.50 Putnam (April 30)

A new novel which covers fifty years in the life of a Norwegian family and their change from the simple life of the hunter to business and its complications. Has been a best-seller abroad. (See Hunting list)

KENNY, YALE. Week-end make believe. about 288p \$2 Arcadia house (April 24)

What starts out as a playful week-end make believe develops into a series of unexpected realities. A romance abounding in gay adventure with a just a touch of mystery. (See Hunting list)

KNEVELS, GERTRUDE. Of love beware. about 320p \$2 Penn (April 17)

A ship disaster and association with a hard-working young doctor bring back an interest in life to a disillusioned but charming girl. A gay love story.

KNOX, RONALD ARBUTHNOTT. Barchester pilgrimage. 273p \$2.50 Sheed (Middle April)

The story of Barchester carried down in a series of episodes to the present day, in the fashion of Trollope himself, and with his same characters. (See STC for other works by this author)

KÜHNELT-LEDDIHN, ERIK, ritter von. Night over the East; tr. by E. Muir. 320p \$2.50 Sheed (Ready)

Adventures of a roving Irishman and a young Hungarian among the terrorist plots and political intrigues of the southern Balkans.

MORGAN, CHARLES. Sparkenbroke. 521p \$2.75 Macmillan (April)

After an interval of more than four years since the publication of *The Fountain*, Charles Morgan has completed its long awaited successor. A brilliant novel centering round the life and death of Lord Sparkenbroke, poet and novelist; his labor and aspiration as a writer; and his struggle to discover, at the core of all his experience, the unifying essence of love, art and death. (See *Authors Today and Yesterday*; Hunting list)

RANDALL, JEAN. In lilac time. 256p \$2 Macrae-Smith-co. (April 15)

A gay romance that will appeal to readers of Kathleen Norris, Faith Baldwin and Louise Platt Hauck. (See Hunting list)

SCARBERRY, ALMA SIOUX. Too many beaux. 256p \$2 Hopkins (April 15)

A story of a girl who was brought up in an orphan asylum, knew nothing of the world and was thrown abruptly into its boiling center to make her own way unaided. Will please readers of light romantic fiction. (See Hunting list)

STEBBINS, MRS LUCY (POATE). Morning glory. about 320p \$2 Penn (April 10)

A youthful and charming widow takes a job as housekeeper for Nigel Morland and chaperone to his young ward. In her efforts to bring happiness to both, she also succeeds in finding her own. (See Hunting list)

## CHILDREN'S BOOKS

HOLLAND, RUPERT SARGENT. Sea scouts of Birch-Bark island. 300p \$2 Lippincott (May 7)

Adventures among Eskimos and icebound whalers in the far North. Three sea scouts get jobs on the fur-bearing steamship *Dunrobin*, become ice-bound and make a camp on Baffin island. They have many thrilling adventures and learn to hunt seals, to drive dog teams and to paddle the Eskimo kayaks. (See *Junior Book of Authors*; Hunting, list)

## REPRINTS

Taylor, A. E. Plato, the man and his work. 184.1

Say you read it in the *Wilson Bulletin*

# COMPTON COMMENT

IN the interest of better service, one of the largest retail stores in New York City has recently organized a **Consumers' Advisory Council**. Much consideration is given to the recommendations of this council and changes are constantly instituted by the store management in order to put them into effect.

This policy on the part of a retail store is especially interesting to Compton executives, for **continuous consumer consultation** has always been a Compton policy. The first edition of Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia, published in 1922, was a decided innovation in the encyclopedia field. It stressed **attractiveness** in format, style and **interest** in writing, **importance** of illustrations, and the **necessity** of an index. Speedily the new reference work went into libraries, schools, and homes. From the beginning constructive criticisms from users were not only welcomed but zealously sought by Compton editors. The encyclopedia was not to be static—revision and improvement were to be continuous—and must reflect **student needs** and **preferences**.

Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia is now fourteen years old and has gone into eighteen editions. Each revision has incorporated many of the suggestions made by the thousands of librarians, teachers, and home users who make up this large Compton Consumers' Advisory Council. Hundreds of new articles have been added in order to meet their needs. In encyclopedia making, as in merchandising, a skillful **interpretation** of the needs of the **consumer** is a prerequisite to success.

\* \* \*

**M**OST welcome to librarians is the new edition of the "**Graded List of Books for Children**," compiled by a joint committee

of the National Education Association, National Council of Teachers of English, and the American Library Association, under the capable chairmanship of **Nora Beust**. The list is attractive in format and **discriminating** in selection of titles.

The annotations in such a list are always interesting. To characterize each book in two or three lines without frequent repetition of phrases and adjectives is difficult, and this list is remarkable for its clear-cut, **informative** notes. Three lines are devoted to a description of Compton's, yet in this small space emphasis is placed on: special preparation for elementary and school use—style—inclusive articles—many illustrations—general excellence.

Of great importance is the new sixth edition of the "**Guide to Reference Books**," compiled by that outstanding authority on reference materials, **Isadore Gilbert Mudge**, Reference Librarian at Columbia University. Here again one is impressed by the more attractive format of the new edition as compared with the old. The improved title page and the more legible type are particularly noteworthy. Miss Mudge is remarkable for her **analysis** of reference books. Interesting is the way in which she brings out some of the strong points of Compton's:

"**Planned** especially for juvenile and school use. . . ."

" . . . **useful** also for the adult who needs a somewhat simpler article than that given in the standard encyclopedias for adults."

" . . . **extensive changes** . . . made in the 1932 edition. . . ."

Both the "Graded List" and "Guide to Reference Books" are published by the American Library Association.

L. J. L.

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**New Subject Headings Adopted  
by Libraries**

As an experiment, in cooperation with the Committee on Subject Headings of the A.L.A. Catalog Section (Sarita Robinson, Chairman), the *Wilson Bulletin* is undertaking the monthly publication of new subject headings adopted by libraries. If you find this list helpful as a timely cataloging aid or have any suggestions to make, please write to us or to Miss Robinson, The University Libraries, Iowa City, Iowa.

The Committee on Subject Headings has collected this list of new headings for publication, but in no manner has it edited or approved the terms used. The main objective has been to publish the new terms promptly, as a suggestive list.

Symbols after the terms indicate the libraries supplying them. As far as possible they follow the Union List of Serials abbreviations. New abbreviations are explained as used.

x = "see also" reference

xx = see reference

NNMu = Municipal Reference Library,  
New York City

Activity coefficients (DLC)  
Aeronautics and state (DLC)  
Aeroplanes—Electric equipment (DLC)  
Alumbrados (DLC)  
Byrd Antarctic expedition, 2d, 1933-1935 (DLC)  
Caddies (Regional arrangement) (NN)  
xx Child labor on golf courses  
x Golf  
xx Golf—Caddies  
Cataloging of church publications (NN)  
x Cataloging of society publications  
Chain letters (NN)  
x Letters  
xx Letters, Chain  
Child labor, Street trades (NNMu)  
xx Street trades  
Consumers (NNMu)  
x Markets and marketing  
Credit unions (direct local subdivision) (MnSJ)  
Delivery orders (DLC)  
Ethiopia-Italian war, 1935- (NN)  
xx Abyssino-Italian war, 1935-  
x Ethiopia—For. rel.—Italy  
x Ethiopia—Hist., 20th cent.  
xx Italo-Ethiopian war, 1935-  
xx Italian-Abyssinian war, 1935-  
x Italy—For. rel.—Ethiopia  
Eyelashes (NN)  
Farm tenancy (NNC)  
x Landlord and tenant  
Fields, Algebraic (DLC)  
Finance, International (MnSJ)  
Flood control (MnSJ)  
Food—Storage (MnSJ)  
4-H clubs (DLC)  
Frame stories (DLC)  
Functionalism (Architecture) (NNC)  
Geomancy (DLC)  
Geometry, Modern (DLC)  
Gift tax (direct local subdivision) (MnSJ)  
Homework in industry (NNMu)  
x Child labor  
x Labor problems  
x Wages  
Industrial buildings (NNC)  
xx Buildings, Industrial  
Institution management (DLC)  
Karelian language (DLC)  
Legal residence (NNMu)  
xx Domicile  
xx Residence, Legal  
xx Settlement  
Library surveys (NNC)  
Light filters (DLC)  
Machinery, Replacement of (MnSJ)

(Continued on page 559)

Say you read it in the *Wilson Bulletin*

# Standard Catalog Monthly

A Selected List of Best Books—April 1936

**THE STANDARD CATALOG MONTHLY** is a list of not more than three hundred books a year recommended for first purchase in libraries. The books are selected by the staff of the **STANDARD CATALOG FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES** with the cooperation of librarians and library associations who are working to improve the selection of books. The entries, with a selection of the more important notes, are taken from the **BOOK REVIEW DIGEST**. Most of the titles in the **MONTHLY** will later be included and analyzed in the annual supplement of the **STANDARD CATALOG FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES**, a more comprehensive selection. Occasionally a book included here may be dropped later, because it is not always possible to get at once the final authoritative opinion as to the value of a book.

[A list of collaborators will be found in the September 1935 issue.]

## 000 General

**KANE, JOSEPH NATHAN.** More first facts; a record of first happenings, discoveries and inventions in the United States. 599p il maps \$2.75; lib ed \$2.25 Wilson, H.W.

031—Encyclopedias and dictionaries. Inventions. U.S.—History—Dictionaries. 35-27426  
Supplement to Famous First Facts. "It presents an entirely different collection of first facts. The scope and general arrangement is the same as in the original volume, but a new feature, an index by days, has been added. This index shows the various 'firsts' which occurred on each day of the year and covers the material both in this volume and in Famous First Facts." (Introd)

Booklist 32:93 D '35

"A book that is as unique, fascinating and valuable a work of reference as its predecessor."

+ N Y Times p14 D 15 '35 280w

**MANLY, JOHN MATTHEWS, and RICKERT, EDITH.** Contemporary British literature; a critical survey and 232 author-bibliographies by Fred B. Millett; 3d rev. and enl. ed, based on the 2d rev. and enl. edition. 556p \$2 Harcourt

016.82 English literature—Outlines, syllabi, etc. English literature—Bibliography 35-18933

The first edition of this handbook of British writers and their work appeared in 1921; the second in 1928. This edition contains forty additional authors, and bibliographical material has been increased.

Booklist 32:74 N '35

Christian Century 52:1459 N 13 '35 70w

## 300 Social Sciences

**ALLEN, EDWARD MONINGTON.** America's story as told in postage stamps. (Whittlesey house publication) new rev. ed. 199p \$2.50 McGraw

393.2 Postage stamps—U.S. U.S.—History 35-29642

About forty stamps have been added in this revised edition of the history of the United States as told in postage stamps.

Booklist 32:144 Ja '36

"Covering as much ground as he does in the space available each topic is necessarily but briefly treated. Nevertheless, the continuity has been cleverly carried through, albeit a few mistakes have crept in such as using a stamp showing Benjamin Harrison to illustrate

the story of William Henry Harrison, assigning wrong dates to the discovery of South Pass and the Pony Express and stating that Lewis and Clark followed the Oregon trail. . . It can be recommended." R. A. Barry

+ Books p27 D 15 '35 120w

Library J 60:827 N 1 '35 10w

**PIERCE, BEATRICE.** It's more fun when you know the rules: etiquette problems for girls; il. by Marguerite De Angeli. 271p \$1.75 Farrar

395 Etiquet. Girls 35-27355

Starting with the idea that social life is really a game and that the rules of etiquette are the rules by which it is played, the author has written an informative and sensible book of etiquette for older girls.

Booklist 32:55 N '35

"This is certainly a program to carry a girl through the chief demands likely to be made upon her *savoir faire* before she is twenty-one."

M. L. Becker

+ Books p8 Ja 12 '36 260w

## 500 Natural Science

**HUXLEY, JULIAN SORELL, and ANDRADE, EDWARD NEVILLE DA COSTA.** Simple science. 688p il \$3.50 Harper [8s 6d Blackwell]

500 Science

Introductory textbook in general science by two leading English scientists. The authors' aim "in writing this book has been to furnish an introduction to science which will set forth in simple words the fundamental facts and the general way in which the man of science regards them: in particular, to show how a few far-reaching principles underlie the study of the great complexity of natural phenomena and man-made machines that surround us." (Introd) Illustrated with line drawings and diagrams in the text.

Booklist 32:131 Ja '36

"Simple Science' is distinguished in two respects from other books of similar purpose. It is written with utter simplicity and precision by two men who are both scholars of the first rank and at the same time charming and effective writers. . . But even more important is the fact that the two authors have collaborated so closely that there is no separating their contributions." Gerald Wendt

+ Books p13 D '29 '35 550w

"The language throughout is not only non-technical but markedly plain, simple and clear."

+ N Y Times p14 D 15 '35 550w

Scientific Bk Club R 6:3 O '35 210w

## 700 Fine Arts

CAHILL, HOLGER, and BARR, ALFRED HAMILTON, eds. *Art in America; a complete survey*. 162p il \$3.50 Reynal 709.73 Art—U.S. Art, American

This survey of American art from its beginnings to the present, contains in one volume two previously published works: *Art in America from 1600 to 1865*; and *Art in America in Modern Times*, edited by Cahill and Barr. Part one has been rewritten for publication in this volume.

Books p24 D 15 '35 110w

"A complete and very competent survey. . . Throughout, the book is illustrated with a lavishness which one cannot sufficiently commend." E. H. Walton  
Forum 95:v F '36 80w

"A sound and stimulating brief story of the arts in this country." V. B.

Sat R of Lit 13:18 Ja 25 '36 140w

Springf'd Republican p12 D 4 '35 350w

## 800 Literature

CORDELL, MRS KATHRYN (COE), AND CORDELL, WILLIAM HOWARD, eds. *Puolitzer prize plays, 1918-1934; introd. by William Lyon Phelps*. 856p \$3.50 Random house 812.08 American drama—Collections 35-23932

The complete text of the sixteen Pulitzer prize plays from 1918 to 1934. Contents: *Why marry?* by J. L. Williams; *Beyond the horizon*, by Eugene O'Neill; *Miss Lulu Bett*, by Zona Gale; *Anna Christie*, by Eugene O'Neill; *Ice-bound*, by Owen Davis; *Hell-bent for heaven*, by Hatcher Hughes; *They knew what they wanted*, by Sidney Howard; *Craig's wife*, by George Kelly; *In Abraham's bosom*, by Paul Green; *Strange interlude*, by Eugene O'Neill; *Street scene*, by Elmer Rice; *The green pastures*, by Marc Connelly; *Alison's house*, by Susan Glaspell; *Of thee I sing*, by G. S. Kaufman and Morrie Ryskind; *Both your houses*, by Maxwell Anderson; *Men in white*, by Sidney Kingsley. Bibliography.

Booklist 32:136 Ja '36

Books p10 D 29 '35 40w

Cleveland Open Shelf p10 O '35

"This present volume is peculiarly timely. It summarizes a completed chapter in the history of the American theatre." Clayton Hamilton

+ Sat R of Lit 13:10 Ja 4 '36 1600w

Theatre Arts Mo 20:164 F '36 240w

KIPLING, RUDYARD. *A Kipling pageant*. 936p il \$3 Doubleday 828 35-34450

Short stories and chapters from some of Kipling's books, and ninety pages of verse. "Here are such immortalities as 'The Man Who Would be King,' 'Without Benefit of Clergy,' 'Bugglesmith,' and 'Wireless,' among the short stories; 'The Light that Failed' in its entirety and 'The Brushwood Boy.'" (Sat R of Lit) No index.

Booklist 32:135 Ja '36

"By means of this 'Kipling Pageant,' a gifted contemporary, however outmoded his message may be, will make new admirers." H. A. P.

Boston Transcript p6 D 7 '35 500w

N Y Times p8 D 1 '35 50w

"In an omnibus volume like this, with the contents culled from so voluminous a writer as Kipling, it is inevitable that every reader

of so popular a writer will find certain omissions and certain inclusions not to his taste. But, in the main, the representation seems to me to be good." W. R. Benét

+ Sat R of Lit 13:7 N 30 '35 600w

## 910 Geography and Travel

IRWIN, DAVID. *Alone across the top of the world; the auth. story of [his] Arctic journey as told to Jack O'Brien; foreword by Russell Owen*. 254p il map \$2 Winston 919.3 Arctic regions 35-27419

David Irwin, a twenty-two year old American, had two objectives in his 3,600 mile journey from the mouth of the Canning river in Alaska to Churchill on Hudson's Bay: he wanted to prospect in the Coppermine district, and to search for the records of the Franklin expedition on King William island. The story of this journey thru the frozen wilderness is told by Jack O'Brien.

Books p17 Ja 19 '36 170w

"It is a story of cruel hardship, suffering and disappointment, lightened only when his lonely traveling is broken by meeting with white man or Eskimo. On several occasions he remained some time among the Eskimos, and was able to give very interesting firsthand accounts of characteristics and habits. Behind every white man choosing to live within the Arctic Circle lies a story, and David Irwin's path crossed several unusual characters who contributed their dramatic accounts to his own. Though he failed in his own purpose and nearly lost his life, Robert Louis Stevenson would tell him that it is better to travel hopefully, than to arrive." M. F. H.

Boston Transcript p5 D 28 '35 550w

+ N Y Times p6 D 22 '35 700w

## Fiction

LAWRENCE, JOSEPHINE. *If I have four apples*. 314p \$2.50 Stokes 36-213

The story of a lower middle-class American family trying to live beyond their means in the present depression age. In the easy years of the twenties the Hoes had grown so used to luxuries that they had come to regard them as necessities. When the depression came, with its salary cuts, they fought on with grim determination, trying to pay for their Jerry-built home and to keep up their former standard of living. For a time this stubborn clash with an economic situation they could not understand went on, and then the inevitable happened.

Booklist 32:170 F '36

+ Books p5 D 29 '35 600w

+ Boston Transcript p3 Ja 4 '36 800w

Chicago Daily Tribune p12 Ja 4 '36

"The trouble is that some who read her novel may react in just such a discouraging way as did the Hoes. Like the girl in the song, they said, 'I don't care what teacher says, I can't do this sum.' They wanted a paternal government to do their homework for them, and make two plus two equal eight. Josephine Lawrence's keen portrayal of these people is timely and provocative." M. W. S.

+ Christian Science Monitor p16 Ja 2 '36

New Repub 85:344 Ja 29 '36 170w

+ N Y Herald Tribune p19 Ja 1 '36 1050w

+ N Y Times p7 D 29 '35 600w

"Quite aside from the question of the faults of our present economic system, Miss Lawrence sees clearly the fecklessness of the small American family with delusions of grandeur. . . This book is not notable for its style—

once Miss Lawrence even speaks of 'solicitation' when she means 'solicitude'—but it says something worth saying concerning those of the lower-middle class, defining the mental fog in which they grope. It is in the nature of an object lesson." W. R. Benét

Sat R of Lit 13:5 Ja 4 '35 460w  
Spring'd Republican p7e Ja 12 '36 450w  
Time 26:35 D 30 '35 540w

**SUGIMOTO, MRS ETSU (INAGAKI).** Daughter of the Nohfu; il. by Tekisui Ishii. 340p \$2.50 Doubleday

35-34911

A story of present day village life in Japan. Particularly it is the story of the family of the farmer Koemon San. Koemon San loves the old ways of living, while his children are drawn to new ways, and the story relates how each side makes its compromises.

Booklist 32:141 Ja '36  
Books p8 N 24 '35 850w

+ N Y Times p9 D 1 '35 850w

"Here is a book that may properly be called unique. . . The book has no particular plot, and only a thread of story—just enough to keep one interested in the characters. . . As a social document it may be criticized for giving an incomplete picture, and it is true that the author prefers to dwell on the brighter rather than the darker side of things. But those who have read Mme. Sugimoto's autobiography, 'A Daughter of the Samurai,' will realize that she is able to do this without in any way distorting the picture." H. G. Henderson

+ Sat R of Lit 13:7 D 7 '35 280w

## Children's Books

**HAWTHORNE, HILDEGARDE (MRS J. M. OSKISON), and MILLS, ESTHER (BURNELL) (MRS E. A. MILLS).** Enos Mills of the Rockies. 260p il \$2.50 Houghton

B or 92 Mills, Enos Abijah. Rocky mountains 35-34859

The life story of Enos Mills, author, guide, and naturalist, who spent most of his life in the Rocky mountains and is known as the father of the Rocky Mountain National park. The book was written for older boys and girls by Hildegarde Hawthorne in collaboration with the widow of the naturalist.

Booklist 32:147 Ja '36  
Boston Transcript p4 D 4 '35 500w

**JUSTUS MAY.** Honey Jane; il. by Charles Smith. 202p \$2 Doubleday

35-20113

Honey Jane is the twelve-year-old heroine of this story of present-day life in Kentucky. Her father, a circuit rider, was one of the "wild McCrearys from Thunder Mountain." When he goes back to the little mountain village to teach school Honey Jane goes with him, and has quite a hand in the ending of the Oliver-McCreary feud.

Booklist 32:148 Ja '36

"A good story filled with the ballads and ways of Tennessee Mountain village life. Interesting pictures by Charles W. Smith."

+ Horn Bk M 11:295 O '35 80w

"Numerous stories have come out of the Southern mountains in the past few years, but I know of none, with the possible exception of Charlie May Simon's stories of the Ozarks, which more richly portrays both the spirit and the physical aspects of life among the mountain people. Boys and girls under 12 will find a wholly lovable character, forthright, impulsive and generous, and the story of her adventures wholly satisfying." E. L. Buell.

+ N Y Times p12 D 22 '35 370w

**PERKINS, LUCY (FITCH) (MRS D. H. PERKINS).** Chinese twins; il. by the author. 166p \$1.75; school ed 88c Houghton

Children in China

35-23921

Moon Flower and Golden Boy, ten-year-old Chinese twins, share the center of the stage in this story of modern China.

Booklist 32:149 Ja '36

"The long procession of happy stories in which the world's children go in two by two has now reached a part of the Far East and a period in its history that affords an unusual amount of action and suspense. . . The pictures are, as usual, lovable and plentiful." M. L. Becker

+ Books p10 N 10 '35 230w

Library J 61:35 Ja 1 '36 80w

## Index to Little Classics Series

To the Editor:

We have prepared an author and title index to the Little Classics series, that bane of many a busy reference librarian's existence, and should like to have other libraries similarly afflicted share the fruits of our work. Would any library blessed with a mimeographing or hectographing outfit be willing to run off duplicates for the benefit of the profession?

FREDERICK A. BLOSSOM, *Librarian*  
Huntington Free Library  
9 Westchester Square  
New York City

## New Subject Headings

(Continued from page 556)

Metal cleaning (MnSJ)  
Nicaraguan literature (DLC)  
Office workers (MnSJ)  
Packaging (MnSJ)  
Painting, Baroque (NNC)  
Painting, Rococo (NNC)  
Physiology, Pathological (DLC)  
Plasticity (DLC)  
Press associations and agencies (NNC)  
Processing tax (MnSJ)  
Rape (DLC)  
Relief (Sculpture) (DLC)  
Retrievers (DLC)  
Samoyeds (Dogs) (DLC)  
Sculpture, Classical (NNC)  
Sculpture, Rococo (NNC)  
Shepherd's pipe (DLC)  
Shoplifting (NNC)  
Siamese cats (DLC)  
Slum clearance (NNMu)  
Soil fertility (MnSJ)  
State aid (MnSJ)  
Talking books (NN)  
x Blind—Books for  
xx Books, Talking  
x Phonograph records  
Translators (DLC)  
War profits (MnSJ)

## The Crow's Nest

(Continued from page 536)

The captions used for similar posters in 1934 were: *Closed!*; *How Do You Treat A Book?*; *Information While You Wait*; *Books in Chains*; *Twelve Books a Minute*; *Of Service to All*.

The picture tells the story better than words. To those who are looking for ingenious and unusual library publicity, we commend the work of the Newark Public Library. We feel privileged to report it; you will find it profitable to study it.

### Briefer Mention

The Public Library of the High Seas (American Merchant Marine Library Association to you) is frankly promotional in its latest *Annual Report*. The illustrations are striking and help to tell a story of splendid work supported entirely by voluntary contributions. The testimonial letters appearing at the end of the report sound slightly "canned," but evidence a warm appreciation for the range and variety of books furnished by the PLHS. . . . Of its kind, the kind being the slightly conservative type, the 1935 report of Pratt Institute Free Library, like its predecessors, is outstanding. The typography and layout of this bulletin should be studied by all those who have anything to do with the preparation of the library annual report. The architect's rendering of the proposed new North Porch, facing the title-page, adds distinction to the bulletin. . . . We suggested in an earlier issue that *The Library During the Depression* might be used as a caption to call attention to a cumulative report of library activities during the past few years. The Queens Borough Public Library did not accept this suggestion but its latest report should be of particular significance to librarians because it reviews the activities of the Library during the past five years. The Queens folk have had to face every type of difficulty, but they are able to point with pride to the completion of a new Central building, the establishment of several branches, the inauguration of a Readers' Advisory Service, and other notable accomplishments. Because of its news and feature-story material, this report should appeal to the news-distribution agencies and should furnish excellent publicity for the Library. . . . The Public Library of the City of Leeds publishes a brief, readable report of its services to business men under the caption "Professors of Foresight?". . . . The 1935 *Annual Report* of the Fort Wayne Public Library presents a dazzling array of graphs—vertical bar graphs, horizontal bar graphs, circle

graphs, curve graphs—in fact the whole darn graph family. If you like this sort of upholstery in your annual report, we commend the F. W. P. L. story as a model. We lost count after the first forty. However, if the graphs are reproduced separately as in the Newark poster or thru the medium of the newspaper, we have no doubt that they will prove effective and profitable. . . . Cossitt Library patrons pay less than the price of a chocolate soda for library service according to the latest *Annual Report* of their Library (Memphis, Tenn.) It seems to us that they would be getting their money's worth if they paid this much for the *Annual Report* itself. If you can use the superlative in describing any sort of mimeographing job, you can use it here. The simple cut of the Library set against a cover background of soft green (the color of S. J. K.'s business stationery) catches the eye. The first three pages tell the story.

### COOPERATIVE BOOK EXHIBITS

**L**IBRARIANS in the vicinity of twenty widely separated cities will have an opportunity this spring to inspect elaborate book displays as a result of a plan originated by Charles Brockmann of the The H. W. Wilson Company and to be carried out by the Book Sales Promotion Service, of which Alfred J. White, formerly of G. P. Putnam's Sons, is Manager.

Thru the cooperation of almost all representative publishers three exhibits to be known as PUBLISHERS' COOPERATIVE BOOK EXHIBITS have been organized to display books under three general classifications. These exhibits will be housed in cases and routed to book stores where each will be displayed for one week.

Visitors to each exhibit will be presented with a souvenir catalog describing each book in that exhibit and containing helpful book buying information. Everything possible is being done to make these exhibits of unusual interest to librarians and book store patrons. A more extensive program is planned for next fall when citizens of many more towns may be given an opportunity of inspecting the best books. The cities in which the present series of exhibits is scheduled to appear are:

Albany, N.Y.; Atlanta, Ga.; Baltimore, Md.; Birmingham, N.Y.; Charlotte, N.C.; Chattanooga, Tenn.; Clarksburg, W.Va.; Dayton, O.; Hartford, Conn.; Ithaca, N.Y.; Louisville, Ky.; Manchester, N.H.; Montclair, N.J.; Nashville, Tenn.; New Haven, Conn.; Portland, Me.; Richmond, Va.; Rochester, N.Y.; Utica, N.Y.; Worcester, Mass.

For complete schedule and further information, write to Book Sales Promotion Service, 950 University Ave. New York City.